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*Letter*

*Ornithological Journal and Field-Notes*  
*Vol I.*

The important systematic notes are copied into  
"N.E. Birds, Systematic Notes, W. Brewster,  
Vols. 1, 11, 111, 1865-1882."

*Walter Deane.*  
*June 11, 1898.*

*Journal*



X  
St. Vincent  
*Letter*

*Ornithological Journal and  
Vol I.*

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The Index, pp. 495-514, will be issued shortly.



 Ornithological & Sporting

JOURNAL

of

William Brewster.

May 27, 1871.



above design by William Stone



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General Statement of the

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Upton Nce.

The town of Upton is situated at the foot of Lake Umbagog and consists of a few scattered houses only. The adjacent country which we made our collecting ground is one vast valley with sloping hills on every side towering into mountains in the distance. To the South about a dozen miles is a range of lofty mountains which apparently forms the limit of the range of many species of birds & mammals. *Sciurus Carolinensis* for instance is said to be ~~seldom~~ taken North of this range and *Peromyscus ruber* rarely strays beyond it; though this the road passes by a narrow gorge with "Taddlebeck" mountains on the left and a decided change of fauna is immediately perceptible. *Ab. virginicus* becomes very scarce and *Cyanospiza cyanea* quite disappears. *D. maculosa* is quite abundant all the way up, although we did not detect it at Bethel the starting point of our stage ride. At that place we found *T. Swainsoni*, *T. noronensis*, *D. albicollis*, *T. fuscus*, *T. savanna*, *Myi. Canadensis*, *G. trichas*, *D. Pennsylvanica* and many other species abundant and fitted for the season. *D. Blackburniana* was numerous in the blossoming apple trees but apparently migrating. *D. striata* was also common and we took one of *E. flaviventris*, but were unable to detect *D. castanea*. *Seturus bairdii* and *C. gilvus* common but we saw no further up the valley. *E. Traillii* commenced a few miles to the North and was heard as far as the



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Poplar town at Upton where we secured two ♂ (penn 10) Why it did not occur at the lake I do not understand as the alder seems its favorite resort was then abundant.

The country at Upton was for the most part covered by the primeval forest: this on high ground consisted of a growth of white spruce trees interspersed with beech and white birch with occasionally poplars and maples. Swamps covered with a growth of white cedar were also frequent and in a few localities a second growth of firs and larch the favorite resort of *Peris. tigrina* and *Hel. prigrina*. The immense tracts of second growth larch so striking a feature in the scenery about the Forks of the Kennebec, were then altogether wanting. Springs of ice cold water were everywhere to be found in the woods but the <sup>water of the</sup> streams and lakes had all that yellow cast, common to flowing water in Maine, and so different from the cristal chambers of the White mountain brooks. The shores of the lake have been periodically flooded for many years by dams at the different outlets, and the trees consequently killed by an excess of water, standing in immense forests of bare naked "stubs" present a most curious and unique appearance and furnish a ~~dwelling~~ home to multitudes of *Hir. bicolor* which breed in the deserted Woodpecker holes and natural cavities. Several species of Ducks also breed in the "stubs" as well as *Lus. versicolor*. The following is a list of the species we observed.

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May 30 to June 10 Upton Maine

- 1 <sup>PANDION</sup> *Accipiter fuscus*, saw a few flying
- 2 *Bubo virginianus*, found a deserted nest with four eggs in an overhauled "stub" in the forest with four eggs.
- 3 <sup>SURNIA ULULA</sup> *Surnia ulula*, has been taken by Mr. Rich.
- 4 <sup>COCCYUS ERYTHROPTALMUS</sup> *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*, saw a single bird in the very depths of a large tract of forest: it was probably a new straggler from the open country.
- 5 <sup>WILLOUS</sup> *Picus villosus*, found it rather common breeding.
- 6 <sup>PUBESCENS</sup> *Picus pubescens*, common breeding; more partial to the flooded forest than the other Woodpeckers.
- 7 *Picoides hirsutus* Took a single specimen May 31<sup>st</sup> it was very tame and the only note I heard was a single call exceedingly like that of *P. pubescens*, though uttered in a different tone.
- 8 *Geothlypis trichas*, Common everywhere and breeding. Took a nest with three fresh eggs (June 10<sup>th</sup>) in a tall stub in the flooded forest. The hole was small for the size of the bird and was drilled in horizontally at least three inches before it began to turn downwards or enlarge; its perpendicular depth was perhaps six inches. These birds were found everywhere but were most partial to the mixed woods and fed almost exclusively on the birch trees. Their notes were a hoarse jay like <sup>harsh</sup> cry, and a loud prolonged singular note like that of any other birds: they were also famous for their tapping calls on the trunks of trees, which were all over the



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at a great distance in still weather: both sexes incubate.

9 Hyphantornis piliatus, said to be frequent though we did not see it.

10 Melanerpes erythrocephalus, took a fine female May 30; was probably a new straggler.

11 Colaptes auratus, White-throated; breeds.

12 Troglodytes aedon, White-throated; breeds.

13 Chaetura pelagica, Common. do not think that it breeds in hollow trees as we found none away from the settlement.

14 Anthus vociferus, A single male sang very night near the hotel: is said to occur everywhere in the woods.

15 Chordeiles pictus. Quite common breeding. The females for three nights (May 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>) when about to deposit their eggs, came in large numbers to a small patch of cultivated ground in front of the hotel, where they moved about in the dusk, with a strange, awkward sidling motion, apparently picking up the fresh earth, so tame were they that if one was shot the others paid no attention but continued feeding. The males kept high up in the air occasionally swooping down and uttering their strange cooing note.

16 Ceryle alcyon, frequent on the lake, a ♀ taken June 10 had not commenced to lay.

17 Tyrannus Carolinensis, rather scarce, saw them occasionally on the lake among the "stubs."

18 Geothlypis trichas. Saw a few males.

19 Carpodacus borealis, Quite numerous; affected the edges of the clearings and hilly pastures where they perched like on the very

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tops of the highest "stubs": never saw them in the flooded forests, though they were the favorite resort of *T. carolinensis*.

20. *Contopus virens*. Saw but very few, these in the depths of the forest.

21. *Empidonax traillii*, probably occurs though we did not detect it here. found it quite frequent however at Mivvi, some twelve miles down on the stage road where we took several specimens. Its favorite resorts here as at Gorham N. H. were the alder thickets along the borders of small "runs" and streams. ~~All that~~ we saw were perched on the tops of tall trees over their dense retreats, and singing vigorously in the full blaze of the moonday sun. Their note was a single *he wing* uttered in a harsh purish tone, at an interval of about thirty seconds, and varied occasionally to *he winch* or *he winch* at each utterance the head was thrown upward with a sudden jerk. They were easily approached and apparently ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> so restless as most of the Flycatchers.

22. *E. minimus*, very common; most partial to the swampy thickets near the lake though found everywhere through the woods.

23. *E. flaviventris*. found only in the cedar swamps where it was not uncommon. Took five specimens during our stay which were all we saw. Found them quite tame and unsuspicious keeping always however in the deepest gloomiest shade, and occasionally uttering their mournful monotonous *peee*. Mr. Maynard also heard another note, *phil-link*, which he describ



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as uttered in a "grave, measured tone"; he found both sexes singing in this peculiar manner. All noises such as the crashing of branches or the report of a gun seems more to excite than alarm them and on such occasions they will frequently alight close by as if impelled by curiosity.

24 Turdus pallasi. Found them rather common breeding. First nest placed on the top of a mossy log contained three fresh eggs June 2. The nest found June 3<sup>rd</sup> was sunk in a mossy hillock and contained three eggs quite far advanced. Another ~~with three~~ newly hatched young was examined June 9<sup>th</sup>. Found everywhere in the woods though not so abundant as

2 T. Swainsoni.

25 Turdus fuscescens. Quite rare: saw and heard it occasionally in swampy localities: at Bethel it was much more common.

26 Turdus Swainsoni. Common everywhere in the woods: ~~took~~ it on several occasions while in the act of singing: were unable to detect any difference between its song and that of T. pallasi. Found numbers of nests. They were usually built about breast high in some small spruce or fir but we occasionally found ~~them~~ higher up on the horizontal branch of some of the larger trees. A nest June 9<sup>th</sup> contained two fresh eggs. ~~We found them~~ quite tame and all the specimens that we took (own dozen or more) were strongly marked, typical Swainsoni.

27 Turdus migratorius. frequent in the clearings. Found nests with eggs upon our first arrival.

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- 28 *Vireo hirsutus*. Occurs sparingly in the clearing where it breeds in the Martin boxes and hollow "stubs".
- 29 *Regulus satrapa*. Affects the cedar swamps and fir thickets where it is quite common, and breeds. Took a female June 6<sup>th</sup> that had evidently been incubating some time but was unable to discover the nest. The male had a simple warbling song slightly resembling that of D. Blackburnian.
- 30 *Parula Americana*. Frequent: affects the tops of the beech and birch trees.
- 31 *Geothlypis trichas*. Found sparingly in the clearings.
- 32 *Geothlypis Philadelphia*. Rather common its favorite resorts are the edges of the woods and small clearings grown up to bushes. On the stage road alone we heard no less than seven males singing in the course of a side of as many miles. The males, unlike *G. trichas*, which it otherwise greatly resembles in habits, always sing from the projecting branch of some dead "stub" at the height of about twenty or thirty feet: out of a dozen or more observed, there were no exceptions to this rule. The song is extremely beautiful; resembling somewhat that of *S. woodhousei*, which however it much surpasses, it commences with two high notes and ends in a most exquisite warble with a falling inflection to the end, altogether exceeding that of any bird in the region it inhabits. Its ordinary chirp is precisely like that of *G. trichas* but it has also a shrill peevish chirping note never heard from that bird.



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- 33 *Helminthophaga ruficapilla*. Quite rare: it is here almost entirely replaced by its prototype *H. purpurina*.
- 34 *Helminthophaga perigrina*. Very common, found everywhere in the woods, but especially partial to ~~stagnant~~ swamps and thickets of tall firs: kept always high up in the tree tops and was very restless, frequently taking long flights. Sang at all times of the day: its note was very like that of *H. ruficapilla* but more prolonged shrill and rapid & frequently it would utter a number of times in succession without the slightest pause until it seemed wonderful that the bird could take breath: it had also a habit of singing on wing especially just as it was coming down from a long flight. The female had a sharp chirp precisely like that of *H. ruficapilla*: ~~They~~ <sup>They</sup> apparently kept rather nearer the ground than the males, where they undoubtedly bred: Shot a female June 7<sup>th</sup> that had commenced incubation and others previously that had laid ~~all~~ but one or two eggs: were not fortunate enough however to find the nest.
- 35 *Cherus auropurillus*. Found sparingly in the woods.
- 36 *Cherus merrillianus*. Rather scarce: heard them occasionally in the swampy thickets.
- 37 *Dendroica virens*. Not common, in the woods.
- 38 *D. caerulescens*. Rather scarce, in the heavy timber.
- 39 *D. coronata*. Quite common in the fir thickets. Found it breeding in an old pasture grown up to small firs. ~~Three~~ nests found June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> were built about breast high in a fir tree, and contained four eggs each, all far advanced

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towards incubation. The nests were all quite large, deeply hollowed and lined principally with feathers.

- 40 D. Blackburnian. Common. Affected the mixed woods where both sexes kept always in the tops of the highest beech and birches. A female taken June 9<sup>th</sup> showed no signs of approaching incubation and they probably breed very late. The song of the male was short and unmusical ending in a high trill. This Warbler though abundant was scarce in comparison with D. castanea, maculosa, tigrina.
- 41 D. castanea. Extremely abundant, in fact the most so of any birds in the region. Affected principally the mixed woods, though found everywhere except in some of the cedar swamps. Kept always in the very tops of the highest spruce trees, and would frequently sing fifteen minutes or more in one place, without apparently moving, or exposing itself to view, and was accordingly a very hard bird to shoot. Slow and sluggish in all its motions like D. striata, it was never found encased in fat like that bird. We very seldom saw them in any of the deciduous trees. Their song was a ~~sharp~~ feeble cheeping note, repeated three or four times and varying considerably in different individuals, sometimes scarcely distinguishable from the ~~ge-ge~~ of Regulus satrapa at others more musical and warbling like that of S. ruticilla. Their nests of which we found several, were very large and bulky and scarcely distinguishable from that of Cor. purpureus. All were built in spruce trees, ~~and~~ horizontal boughs near the extremity,



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- at the height of about twenty feet: one taken from contained two, another from 9<sup>th</sup> three fresh eggs.
42. D. Pennsylvanica. Occurs quite plentifully all the way up the valley, it is not at all scarce at Upton in the clearings, along the edge of the woods.
43. D. striata. Took a female, the first morning May 31<sup>st</sup>, probably a straggler from the migration, as we did not see it afterward, though Verril gives it as "very common at the New Lakes breeding." Found them quite abundant at Bethel May 30<sup>th</sup> in the apple orchards.
44. D. autemulosa. Common everywhere especially along the wood paths and edges of clearings. Nest always low down in the branches when in the woods. One nest found June 5<sup>th</sup> and the others June 9<sup>th</sup> were all built about breast high in a small fir and contained each four fresh eggs.
45. D. tigrina. Very common everywhere but especially in the thickets of tall firs. Song precisely like D. castanea, and habits very similar, but rather more active, keeping always near the tops of the highest trees, and occasionally swooping out after a passing insect. They also had a habit of sitting perfectly motionless on the topmost sprig of some enormous spruce or fir for ten or fifteen minutes at a time and singing at regular intervals: at such times they were extremely hard to see, and when shot were almost certain to lodge on the spreading branches. The females like the sparrow, always kept high up in the trees; we took several that were about to lay and on

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- shot June 9<sup>th</sup> had evidently deposited all but her last egg.  
(We were unable to detect either *D. aestiva* *D. pinus*, or *D. palmarum*)
- 46 *My. Canadensis*: Found everywhere in the woods though in no locality very common. The females were evidently laying at the time of our departure.
- 47 *Cotopiraga ruticilla*. Common everywhere and a great nuisance as we were continually shooting them for some time.
- 48 *Pyrausta nuba*. Heard only one at Upton, a male on the shore of the lake June 4. Heard another about seven miles South of Upton and North of the mountain range.
- 49 *Hirundo horreorum*. Common breeding.
- 50 " *lunifrons*. Common the first pair arrived June 1<sup>st</sup> and immediately commenced a nest; in a few days a colony of a dozen or more was at work.
- 51 *H. bicolor*. Very common on the lake where they breed in the hollow stumps and deserted Woodpecker holes.
- 52 *Ceryle alcyon*. Common on the lake.
- 53 *Pogon ruber*. A few pairs breed in the martin box in front of the hotel.
- 54 *Amphisp. cedrorum*. Common, especially in the flooded forests where they perch on the tops of the "stumps"; saw them breeding in a low fir June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 55 *Vireo olivaceus*. Common everywhere in the woods.
- 56 *Vireo solitarius*. Not very common in the woods. (Found *V. gilvus* common at Bethel)
- 57 *Troglodytes ~~canadensis~~*. Very common everywhere.



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in the woods. The males sang at all times of the day but especially in the early morning and just at sunset.

So shy and retiring were they that we did not take a single specimen, and on only one occasion did I succeed in so much as catching a sight at one. (Found a pair of *T. audon* breeding in a hole in a birch stump in the woods at Bethel.

58 *Ortithia Americana*. Quite frequent in pairs, and probably breeding. Heard the males sing as in Massachusetts on several occasions.

59 *Ortithia Canadensis*. Rather common though very silent and retiring. (S. Carol. as far up as Barter).

60 *Tamus atricapillus*. Common though extremely quiet and inconspicuous; found two nests in birch stumps, one June with five and the other June 9<sup>th</sup> with four fresh eggs.

61 *Castroacus purpureus*. Much to our surprise found them everywhere very common in the depths of the woods, where the males usually sang from the top of some tall spruce.

62 *Chrysomitris tristis*. Common.

63 " *pinus*. Common?

64 *Curvirostra Americana*. Saw a small flock June 4<sup>th</sup> and a single bird June 5.

65 *Paspereulus savanna*. Found it abundant in the growing fields and grassy meadows all the way up from Bethel, and sparingly on the hilly stump-filled pastures at Upton.

66 *Poocetes gramineus*. Frequent in the high open pastures.

67 *Zon. albicollis*. Common and one of the most beautiful songsters of the region; we heard its exquisite melody frequently as late as

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10 o'clock P.M. Found in all three nests, built in nearly the same situations, in pastures under or near fallen logs, from June 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>: one indeed (June 9<sup>th</sup>) was placed strictly under a broad slab with a space over the sitting bird of a few inches only: this nest contained five eggs nearly hatched.

68 Junco hyemalis. Common but not nearly so abundant as at the mountains. A nest taken June was built close under the side of a fallen log in an old pasture and contained four fresh eggs.

69 Spizella socialis. Very common everywhere but did not penetrate very deep into the woods. A nest found at Newry, May 30<sup>th</sup> contained four fresh eggs.

70 Melospiza melodia. Common

71 Melospiza palustris. Common on the shores of the lake: found a nest on a small floating island June 3<sup>d</sup> containing four fresh eggs.

72 Guiraca ludoviciania. Rather common at the lake: ~~noticed~~ them all the way up the valley and frequently ~~two or three~~ might be heard singing at once.

Cyanospiza cyanea. Heard a single male about twelve miles below the lake.

Dolichonyx orizivorus. Abundant up to the mountain range with a few stragglers above it but does not occur at the lake.

73 Agelaius phoeniceus. Common on the lake especially near the floating islands where they breed.

74 Pelecanus ferrugineus. Saw them frequently: are said to breed in great abundance on the Megalloway farther up the lake.



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75. Quiscalus versicolor. Common on or on the lake. Especially among the stubs. Nearly as shy as in Massachusetts. Found two nests on June 3<sup>rd</sup> ~~in the stubs~~ four eggs well advanced and the other (June 7) contained a like number in a similar condition. The first was built in a hole in an old "stub" with an entrance barely large enough to admit the bird, and was composed of dry grass, coarse weed stalks &c without mud; the other composed of the ordinary materials was placed in the fork of a small beech growing over the water.
76. Corvus Americanus. White, common everywhere.
77. Cyanura cristata. Common; saw one May 30 take an egg from the nest of a Robin and make off with it; fiercely pursued by the parent bird.
78. Ectopistes migratoria. Common; saw them nearly every day sometimes in pairs, but frequently in flocks of twenty or more.
79. Bonasa umbellus? Heard the drumming of the male but did not see a single specimen.
80. Ardea herodias. Common over the lake.
81. Botaurus lentiginosus. Found three nests on a small floating island in the lake, June 3<sup>rd</sup> containing respectively, six, three and five eggs all with fresh. The nests were such structure of sticks placed on the quaking, boggy ground, carried a growth of low bushes and were all within a few rods of one another. The females were all sitting and did not rise till nearly stepped on. We found only one male on the island, whom he might be heard singing at all times of the day, and even after the nests were robbed, he did not desert it.

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These floating islands of which there were several in the lake are very singular and interesting formations of nature. Of a few rods only in extent, they are ~~composed of~~ composed of interlaced roots and turfs, a gnarling surface, yielding several niches beneath. Very foot steep and occasionally giving way under the uneasy tread, they are covered with a growth of low blueberry bushes and on one we observed two other larch trees some fifteen or twenty feet high. Literally, are they floating as they rise and fall with the waters of the lake, and one even broken loose from its mooring and drifted a mile or more.

(*Philohela minor* is said to be quite abundant here but we did not see it. *Gallinago Wilsoni* is also abundant in the autumn.)

(*Phryacophilus sibiricus*, Saw it near Bethel but did not detect it at the lake.)

82. *Tringoides macularius*. Common

83. *Anas obscura*. Quite common

84. *Aix sponsa*. Very common

85. *Lophodytes cucullatus*. Quite common

86. *Larus argentatus*. Saw them nearly every day: are said to breed abundantly on B. pond.

This includes only those actually observed, many others of course occur frequently at other seasons of the year and in other localities. The number of ducks breeding here must be very large; indeed a party making a boat excursion up the Cambridge river stated that in one day they saw between one and two hundred of different species, many of them with broods of young. We found



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upon our arrival, all the birds settled down for the season and in full song. The number of birds in the woods was absolutely astonishing and far excelled anything that I ever saw in the most favored locality in Massachusetts. Perhaps the ~~abundances~~ <sup>multitudes</sup> of flies and mosquitoes that every where swarmed had something to do with this but be that as it may all species of small birds ~~and~~ especially the warblers were excessively abundant everywhere.

All the notes  
attracted to Sept 29

Rye - V. H. 1871

Jul 26<sup>th</sup>

Started from Cambridge July 26<sup>th</sup> and drove down to Rye arriving there about noon the next day. Between Reading and Andover heard *M. fallax* singing and observed a *H. purpurea* playing with a large quill feather repeatedly carrying it up into the air then dropping it again. July 27<sup>th</sup> on the road down saw a pair of *Spiz. socialis* copulating while the ♂ held in their bill food for her yaking. A short distance from the Sea View Hotel I and three *Sp. albirostris* came out once and a *C. Reg. satrapa* in a thicket. In the P. M. went out on the marsh and found *Cambetta flavipennis* (Southwest) in a flock of upwards of thirty. Saw perhaps 10 or 12 in the course of the afternoon. Most of them were adults but some were young and exceedingly tame. *Actitis macularia* and *C. putrescentia* flew through the marsh in large flocks all the afternoon. July 28. On the morning driving passed by Rye from the N. East on N. H. Cambridge was in terrible weather the day.

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~~Mareca~~ *Mareca* *grisescens* seen in flocks  
 freely for some all day, but especially  
 in the heavy rain of the afternoon.  
 Both species descend readily; the Snipe  
 is better than the Telling Legs, answer  
 the call whistle with a nearly similar  
 note. Both species when regarded might  
 be seen standing on some projection  
 of mud, but tilted up and down as if  
 in quest; when caught they uttered loud  
 screeching note. *Ac. maculata* also seen  
 or in flocks uttering a strange guttural note,  
 frequently keeping company with the Peep  
 and lighting on the mud banks. All the  
 Gallinules are abundant on the marsh  
 and in flocks, and passing over  
 the water frequently in the weather be-  
 lieving themselves a day or two; sometimes  
 many hundreds are in sight at once.  
 seen one *Sterna*, probably *S. hirsuta* over the  
 pond in the forenoon. *Ac. semipalmata*  
 and *Tring. macularius* are also frequent on  
 the marsh, the former not so much so  
 later in the season. Saw also one *Tring.*  
 flying through the marsh.

July 30 Sunday. Saw nothing flying  
 but Peeps and *Ac. semipalmata*. Saw  
 also one *Anas obscura* and was told  
 that they were here three weeks ago.  
 July 31 Clear most of day with an occasional  
 shower, wind S. West. Small flight of *G. flavirostris*  
 & *M. grisescens* and a shot into a flock of the  
 former brought in addition to two of both species  
 a fine adult *M. hirsuta*. Watched a  
 flock of *M. grisescens* and *G. flavirostris* feeding together.



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and was struck by the similarity in motions of the former to the latter. Gull/Wilson's  
 Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> Clear with S. East wind Saw as many as a dozen large flocks of *G. flavipes* but some specimens of *M. griseus*. Large flock of "Peeps" also flew but I shot four *A. maculosa* one of which was as fat as a wheel, to be able to fly. On *G. flavipes* are now almost all here of the year and very immature plumaged but I have not yet seen any specimens of *M. griseus* and similar collected. There is a small colony of *N. Gardenii* or *spenceri* back of the house, and the birds fly over to the marsh every night at dusk.

Heard the first *Purge Plover* yesterday, probably *S. phalaropus*. Heard the first *Actitis Bartramius* this evening about 11 o'clock, flying over, in the moonlight.

Aug. 2 Foggy in A. M. Slightly still with light wind from the S. East. Saw only one flock of *G. flavipes* the whole forenoon. Also an *A. Bartramius* and an immature *Circus Hudsonicus* beating about over the marsh. In P. M. several small flocks of *G. flavipes* passed through the marsh and observed a very fine adult *M. griseus*. Saw also one of the large *Plover* and what I took to be *I. canutus*. On the beach saw several *Col. arvensis* the first, and a single specimen of *S. interpres*.

Aug 3. Clear and very warm. Spent the forenoon on the marsh but saw nothing but a pair of *I. maculata* and a few Peeps. In P. M. saw a single *M. griseus*.

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Aug 4<sup>th</sup> A.M. clear with S. West wind. From  
at 5 A.M. and went down on the marsh  
where I found a large flock of *G. flavipes*  
Saw in the course of the morning about  
forty *G. flavipes*, a few *M. grisus* and  
two *Ag. vociferus* in a flock of the former.  
*Ceryle alcyon* is beginning to appear and  
I saw also two *Anas obscura* probably  
summer resident birds. P.M. cloudy  
with strong wind from the S. West  
probably too strong as a single flock  
only of *G. flavipes* passed through the  
marsh. A very fine adult *S. interpres*  
was however shot.

Aug. 5. Clear with West wind.  
Saw several flocks in the course of the  
day of *G. flavipes*, and two birds  
that I took for *Sin. canutus* that  
uttered a long piping whistle. Did not  
go down on the marsh at all to day.

Aug 6<sup>th</sup> Clear with South wind; shifting  
to S.E. in P.M. and quite strong. A very  
large flight of *G. flavipes* all day. One  
flock containing as many as thirty birds  
being observed. Saw also a few *S. macrotis*  
and one *Ac. Partrianus* lit on the  
marsh.

Aug. 7 A.M. clear; P.M. clear but cloudy  
around the horizon and threatening  
with very strong South wind. A very  
large flight of birds all day but espe-  
cially between 5 and 8 A.M. and 3 and  
6 P.M. Principally *G. flavipes* with a  
few *Mac. grisus* and *Syn. semipalmatus*  
the first observed. Of small birds *Ag. vociferus*,



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August.

with the two species of Peeps, flew through the marsh all the afternoon in immense flocks, ~~as~~ many as five or six hundred being probably observed <sup>altogether</sup>; accompanying nearly every flock were four or five *Actodromus maculata*, but have seen no separate flocks of that bird as yet. One bird of that species that lit among the droops was so tame as to allow of an approach to within six feet before flying: they were unlike the *Ag. rufipalmata* described in readily by the whistle & stool birds. The Swallows pass all extremely abundant on the marsh. *G. bicolor* and *G. horreorum* the most so. (Progen sub's appeared yesterday.) They pass through all day long flying Southward, but in early morning are more stationary hovering about in all directions, after insects.

Aug. 8. Morning broke cloudy with frequent showers from the S. West with strong wind till 10 A.M. up to which time the birds flew very well: nearly all were *G. flavipes* but the first *G. melanotus* was observed. Saw only three *M. griseus* but the Peeps and *A. semipalmatus* flew in immense numbers. In P.M. the wind held the same but the weather clearing off the flight stopped entirely.

Aug. 9 Clear with very strong West wind all day. *G. flavipes* flew in abundance all day long as many as seventy or eighty being observed. Early in the morning a *Syrnium* *lockdown*

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came through the marsh lighting a moment among the decays and several small companies of Ac. Bonapartei passed over. Two flocks (one six the other three) of Anas obscura came in from the pond and passed over to the Southward evidently migrants and the first yet observed. In the P. M. shot a fine Mic. himantopus among a flock of G. flavus. Yesterday saw them Ac. Bonapartei for the first time and today several more in company with Peeps.

Aug. 10 Clear with very strong N. West wind all day. morning very cold the thermometer as low as 50° An immense flight of birds passed through commencing at about 6 A. M. and ceasing entirely at 12 P. M. the wind veered around to the East but only one small flock of G. flavus was observed. Probably as many as five or six hundred of G. flavus were seen in the early part of the day, sometimes as many as thirty or forty flying in one flock; these large companies paid little attention to the stools other than to pass over them down wind, flying in a large scattered flock.

This was probably the flight of the season and the day selected for it was apparently the worst possible.

The flight of Peeps & Ag. sinuata was quite large but not so much as on several former days. A flock of fifteen Anas obscura passed in from



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the sea over the marsh and in P.M.,  
a fair pair of Ad. Ch. atricilla.  
Dolichonyx oryzivorus has been flying  
in large flocks, for the last two or three  
days; their fall plumage is now complete.  
Saw several scattering Ac. Bonapartei.

Aug. 11. Clear with light wind from the  
S. East. A small flight of G. flavipes from  
7 to 11 A.M. perhaps a half dozen small  
flocks passing through. Three G. melanotos  
came in and we killed a Symphoricarpha  
unipalmata and a Mac. griseus both  
immature birds; the former came in  
to the dogs without any hesitation.

Two Mac. himantopus, one immature,  
came over the marsh and were both  
shot. They resembled G. flavipes so closely,  
on the wing, that we took them for that  
bird: their note was however a trifle  
harsher.

Aug. 12. Clear with S. East wind a warm.  
Two or three flocks of G. flavipes flew about  
sunrise and several more in the afternoon.  
Saw several flocks of Peeps and Arg. sum.  
but no flight of other birds. On the beach  
saw a large flock of Cal. arimaria and  
quite a number of Arg. unipalmatus.

For the morning shot the first Qu. discors  
and saw a G. melanotos in a flock  
of the other species. Dolichonyx oryzivorus  
are now passing continually in numerous  
flocks.

Aug. 13. Clear and cool with N. East wind.  
Did not go out but noticed large flocks  
of Peeps passing over, with an occasional

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Flocks of G. flavipes. Nye. Gardner fed on the marsh every night, coming in about dusk. Nearly all the wood birds have ceased singing though I occasionally hear L. aurora and Peth. hirticilla; also C. cyanea up to yesterday morning. S. annuus Car. is still common about the fields and apparently but few land birds have started as yet on their migrations.

Aug. 14. Clear and still. Moderate wind from S. East in P. M. Only a few straggling birds passed through the marsh, all G. flavipes with the exception of one M. griseus.

Large flock of Pups passed through the marsh in the forenoon; see them frequently light in small flocks on the topmost sail of a fence that runs through the marsh. Saw a wounded Trin. macularius dive repeatedly, passing near the bottom at a depth of two or three feet and using its wings ~~only~~ as a motive power; this may have been partly, however, because one of the legs were broken. Circus Hudsonius is now observed nearly every day beating ~~heavily~~ through the marsh, but always apparently migrating, coming in from the North and passing out the lower side.

Aug. 15. Clear and sultry with light S. East wind. Scarcely any large birds flew, only nine or ten G. flavipes being observed all day. The flight of Pups was quite large especially in the P. M. when they came through the marsh continually in flocks of twenty or more. Saw but few H. ampelis.



and have not observed a single *Actodora maculata* or *Act. Bastranius* for four or five days. Saw only two *G. melanoleuca* during the day. At dinner a fine adult specimen of *Larus argentatus* passed through the marsh. Early in the morning saw immense flocks of *Dol. cristatus* passed over high up, toward the North, a sort of counter migration that I have noticed before this season in *G. flavipes* as well.

Aug 16. A. M. cloudy with light showers from the S. West. Only a few small flocks of *G. flavipes* were observed, though the two species of *Papus* flew in large flocks all the forenoon. About 12 M. the wind shifted to S. East, the sun came out, and flocks of *G. flavipes* flew all the afternoon as many as thirty or forty birds passing through, but as they came mostly in small flocks and decoyed unusually well, the greater part of them was secured. Saw also a single specimen of *Stupa interpres* that came flying through the marsh with its usual swiftness, and a pair and two single birds of *Ac. maculata*. Saw two *Colymbus torquatus*.

Aug. 17. Morning clear and very warm with light S. West wind. *G. flavipes* flew in abundance all day upwards of fifty being observed. A *Symphonia semipalmata* was also killed coming in readily to the decoys. Early in the morning there was quite a flight of *Actodora Bastranius*, mostly single birds passing over high as usual. A duck described to me as *Marcen America* and called by the

sportsman (Mr. John Dodd) a Bald pate, was shot near my decoys this afternoon, Aug. 18 Morning clear and cool with wind from the North all night. At about sunrise four Teal were seen on the pond and two (*Lus. discors*) secured (Mr. Neil Davis).

Only one *G. flavipes* and a few small flocks of Peeps were observed during the morning and forenoon but about 3 P. M. a very strong S. Easterly wind sprang up and a flock of about ten *G. flavipes* accompanied by three *G. melanotos* came into the marsh. Later another *G. melanotos* with a *G. flavipes* and a solitary *Ac. maculata*. Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> Clear and cool with strong Westerly wind. Early in the morning a dozen or more *G. flavipes* flew and the first *Tringa canutus* was killed, an adult male in the full breeding plumage. A specimen of *Spatula clypeata* was also shot on the Eel pond, a young female in good plumage; it was swimming near the grassy margin and was easily approached, which was perhaps accounted for by the fact that both eyes were nearly obscured by a white skin like process that was fast destroying the poor birds sight. In the afternoon a large flock of perhaps a dozen *G. flavipes* passed through.

Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> Clear. Very cold in A. M. the thermometer falling to probably 30° deg. At daylight we discovered a flock of nine *Lus. discors* on the pond, and as it was Sunday they were unmolested for a long time. Through the forenoon they remained in nearly the



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same place, searching for food on the bottom with tails and feet elevated above the surface.

At about noon they were joined by five *Anas obscura* which fed with them for an hour or more until they were fed into from the shore: one Geal and three Ducks were killed but the former after a few wheeling flights lit in the pond again but were finally driven off, passing out high in air to the Southward: in an hour or two however they returned and wheeling over some wooded decays two or three ~~lit~~ for a moment but finally followed the rest of the flock which lighted near the margin and burying their heads in their feathers all about apparently to sleep: when they passed the afternoon occasionally taking short flights and settling again, the flight of "Peeps" was truly surprising: a strong S. East wind springing up in P. M. the flocks passed through the marsh in clouds, some flocks of at least a hundred Ring Starved. Perhaps a dozen *G. flavipes* were also seen and strangely enough four or five *M. griseus* came through in couples & singles. *Lohy. origivorus* is getting quite scarce.

Aug. 21 Cloudy with rain from S. West in morning, and strong cold wind from East in the afternoon. Early in the morning the flock of Geal seen yesterday was discovered still on the pond but was frightened out. Two *M. griseus* and one *G. flavipes* only seen. A very heavy flight of Peeps

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passed through in the forenoon

Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> Clear and warm; stiff East wind in P.M. At about sunrise found two Lani discors sitting near my decoys and killed them both (both ♂). Saw a small flock of five or six G. flavipes in the morning and about noon two Nuc. griseus accompanied by a St. interpres.

In P.M. there was a most extraordinary flight of Peeps over a hundred being frequently seen in a flock. Upon shooting a number I found the two species, in the proportion of about nine Es. putrificatus to one Ac. minutilla, whereas two weeks ago it was precisely the opposite. Ac. semipalm also flew in small flocks and I was quite certain that I detected Spin. rufescens in a pair of birds that flew about out of gunshot, uttering a mellow whistle entirely distinct from the grating creaking note of Ac. maculata which they otherwise resembled.

Aug 23 A.M. clear and very cold with but little wind: saw but two G. flavipes and much to my surprise not Teal. On the beach were a flock of Cal. arenaria feeding in a clow body with heads down, following very readily away. The Redpolls after the first gleam of light still come into the marsh from the South end, and bathe about by hundreds close to the tops of the tall grass: when their morning meal is finished and the sun rises, they collect on some fence rail sitting close together in



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long rows. About noon a few G. flavipes. (Perhaps a dozen) and several Mac. griseus flew through the marsh. The grass is now being mown and the Pup. are getting thicker and thicker every day. Did not go out in the afternoon but think that there was no flight.

Aug. 24. Heavy rain from the S. West in the night: stopped raining about 5 A.M. when I went down on the marsh. A flock of about twenty G. flavipes accompanied by nearly fifty Peeps came through and a discharge of both barrels secured seven of which proved to be Mic. himantopus. Several others G. flav. were also shot and one Mac. griseus in immature plumage. All the G. flavipes are now young not more than one in a dozen being adults and all are very fat whereas earlier in the season it was seldom that I took one in good condition. In the forenoon pulled out to sea about a quarter of a mile and found rather to my surprise, G. halargadum. Winnia quite abundant and was informed by the fishermen that there or few miles west they were very numerous and taken coming frequently so near as to be knocked down with the oars. Saw also Sterna hirundo or macroura, and Larus argentatus, most of the latter adults. On a rocky point saw six or seven Stupa. interpres and several flocks of Cal. arenaria. In the P. M. there was a small flight of 3 flavipes with a few G. melanotos.

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Aug. 25. Morning broke cloudy and damp with a light wind from the S.W. By 9 A.M. the sun came out and the wind for the rest of the day was very light at times almost dying out. The day was about the hottest of the season. A very heavy flight of birds commenced at day break and lasted without intermission through the day: although probably not nearly so many flew as on the 10<sup>th</sup> yet they were so tame and came into the decoys so well, that my bag was much larger than on that day, counting up to sixty large birds.

*G. flavipes* of course represented the largest part of this flight but to my surprise *M. grisius* also flew in great numbers some flocks of fifteen or twenty being observed: all these seemed even in the immature plumage. In nearly every flock of *G. flavipes* were two or three *G. melanoleuca*, then always taking the lead and proving rather a nuisance from their great "thymes": they however came in readily enough to the decoys if my person was well concealed.

*Actodromus maculata* were unusually abundant flying for the most part singly or in pairs though we saw one flock of eight or ten. *Ac. Bonapartii* was also rather frequent perhaps a dozen being observed, and I took my first *Ac. rufescens* a single bird in company with *A. maculata*. Three or four *Syr. Helvetica* came through the marsh and there was a good flight overhead of *Ac. Batrassius* the first seen for some time. Early in the evening a large Curlew which



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I took for *N. longirostris* passed over high, uttering a loud almost shrieking note.

The flight of Peeps and *A. semipalmatus* has been truly extraordinary for the last three or four days, frequently thousands passing through in the course of a few hours. In the morning a single specimen of *Micropasma himantopus* was secured, a young bird in the gray plumage. Of large birds probably about 250 were observed during the day. Heard the migrating *D. virginicus* all day.

Aug. 26. Cloudy with cold N. East wind and driving mist and rain. Early in the morning but very few flocks were seen. In the forenoon twenty or thirty large birds flew, *E. flavipes* and *G. canad.* in about even numbers, one flock of six of the latter being observed. A few *Mac. griseus* were also seen. In P. M. only a few stragglers were seen, but *Aras obscura* came in and after a most careful stalk I secured two of them.

The Peeps flew to day in greater numbers than ever, and in such clouds did they come that it would be utterly impossible to compute their numbers. Their largest flocks are nearly always led by a dozen or more *A. semipalmatus*.

The beach this year is nearly barren of birds only a few insignificant flocks having so far been seen there. *Thornas* are every day getting more abundant over the beach.

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August

Aug. 27. A. M. foggy clearing off at noon. P. M. very warm with almost a hurricane of wind from the South. Early in the morning a few large birds, mostly *G. callantheura* were seen, not over a dozen in all. In the afternoon there was absolutely no flight at all. Only a few insignificant flocks of Peeps were seen during the day.

Aug. 28. Clear and cool. Wind from the North during the forenoon: very strong from the S. East in P. M. Before breakfast saw two small flocks of *G. flavipes* four *M. griseus* and a flock of about ten *A. maculata*. In the forenoon about fifteen *G. flavipes* and *G. melanochroa* passed through the marsh. In the afternoon a fine immature *Trin. fuscescens* came down among the droops and was shot (by Mr. B. Dyer) as was also the first *Charadrius Virginicus*, a ring-bird that lit on the marsh. In the afternoon beat for Woodcock about half way up to Exeter and after trying all kinds of ground finally flushed two, in a large cornfield on a dry, gravelly hillside: the ground was however quite moist from last night's rain. Saw only a few flocks of Peeps.

Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> Cloudy and calm. Quite warm, with a shower from the S. West about noon. Went out before breakfast, but saw only three *A. maculata*. In the forenoon two of them *G. flavipes* & *G. melanochroa* passed through. After the rain a flock of five *Anas obscura* was discovered on the pond.



1871August

The Peeps have suddenly disappeared. Yesterday I saw not more than twenty or thirty and to day perhaps five or six single birds. Anmodromus caudacutus is rather rare on the marsh; after the grass was cut they sought shelter in the few scanty beds of reeds that were left.

Aug. 30 A. M. cloudy, with strong wind from the S. East. Noon clear. P. M. heavy showers from the S. West. About sunrise four G. flavipes came into the marsh, and later a single M. griseus. In the forenoon a single G. flavipes and in the afternoon five passed. Several Sterna hirundo were driven in by a heavy fog and one settling among my Goat decoys was shot. I heard last night a few Lol. origines migrating, but the flight has apparently passed them, as it is long since I have seen a flock of any size. Saw during the day not more than four or five Peeps and as many Ag. semipalmatus. Tringoides macularius is getting quite scarce. Saw a single Ac. Bonapartei.

Aug. 31. Clear and cool with strong West wind. About sunrise two Lus. discors came into the pond and nearly settled among my Goat decoys. Not happening to be in my stand however they soon flew to another part of the pond and I chased them in my boat for some time in vain. About

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minus two *G. flavipes* came through. Through the day saw nothing but a few straggling Peeps. In the afternoon saw an immense flight of *Chordeiles pictus* passing South, probably several hundreds, flying in a large loose flock of nearly a mile in length.

Sept 1 Clear and cool with North wind shifting to N. East in the afternoon. At daybreak found two flocks of *Zonotrichia* on the Eel pond, or rather the overflowed marsh adjoining it: one flock contained about twenty, and the other seven birds. The larger flock was approached by a Mr. Lath, who sculled <sup>in a boat</sup> ~~up~~ within about twenty five yards without the slightest alarm, and when fired into, the other flock which was feeding a few hundred yards off did not fly. The first flock being scared, left the pond at once, but four falling from the smaller flock the remaining three flew only about two hundred yards off and were easily approached in a boat and secured: one of them proved to be an immature *Spatula chrysoptera*. Later in the morning another flock of four came into the pond. At noon a flock of four *G. flavipes* passed through and still later four *G. melanotos* and a single *Ac. maculata*. A flight of Peeps also started, five or six large flocks being observed in the forenoon as well as a few *Ag. semipalmatus*.



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Sept. 2.

An immature Circus Hudsonius and a Phy. solitarius were also seen.

Sept.

Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Clear and cool with North wind. At daybreak three Laur. discors came into the pond, but were too shy to be approached. I shot an immature Ardea herodias, one of two that sat on the shore of the pond and allowed me to row up in an open boat without the slightest cover to within forty yards. Found two Murinus Hudsonius on the sea wall. They were quite tame and unsuspicious till one was shot, when the other continued for a long time flying about just out of range and uttering a whistle of three or four million notes; finally it lit and sank with great swiftness to the top of a small shrub where it remained in an upright position until frightened by my approach.

In the afternoon started on the road for home reaching Amosbury Mass. that night. Saw a J. pallasi in Hampton, numbers of Tyrannus Carolin. apparently starting on their flight, and a flock of several thousand Swallows settling on the telegraph wires at Seabrook. (The Swallows on the Rye beach marsh are fast, having but I saw this morning representatives of the four species still remaining)

(Sept. 3 Sunday at Amosbury)

Sept. 4 Clear and a hot day. Drove to

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September

Cambridge in the forenoon. At Haverill  
heard Vireo flavifrons in full song and several  
V. gilvus

## Long Island - Boston Harbor

Sept. 3 "Clear still and hot with a South  
wind in P. M. There was the largest flight  
of birds seen to day that has been seen  
for many years. Several persons who were  
on the island told me that it would have  
been easy to have killed 100 Ch. Virginicus  
and the smaller birds, Peeps &c. were countless.  
Two Trin. rufescens and a Numenius borealis  
were taken. Strept. interpres was also abundant.  
H. Henshaw

Sept. 7 "Only a few flocks of Ch. Virginicus  
flw. Peeps were however in abundance  
all over the island, even lighting up on  
the hilly pastures. Two Ac. Bonapartei  
were also secured." (R. Dean)

## Upswich Mass.

Sept. 9 Clear with South wind; sharp white  
frost in the night. On the beach found  
multitudes of Cal. arenaria probably  
seven or eight hundred being seen altogether.  
A large flock of Strept. interpres, a single  
Tringa canutus, and three or four Ac. Bonapartei  
were also seen. On the marshes a single  
Gall. melanoleuca, a flock of two Ch. Virginicus  
and two Numenius borealis and a very few  
Peeps were seen. Over the sea Larus argentatus  
~~both~~ adult and immature, and a few



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October

*Sterna hirundo* (or *macroura*) were seen. The great event of the day was the capture of a wing broken *Sterna Caspia* that had come ashore on the beach and we were afterwards much delighted to see several of the big fellows fishing a short distance out, and coming down with the tern Tern plunging: perhaps a dozen were seen altogether. Coming back along the beach saw a flock of about twenty *Adia hirodrias* sitting on the beach, something Mr. Maynard tells me altogether unique for that place. Heard probably the last *Dol. originous*.

### Centerville Cape Cod.

Oct. 17. Arrived here this evening at 7.30 and stayed three days, putting up with Mr. Sidney Baxter whom we found a most kind and obliging host. Our first day Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> we killed only six Quail and three Snipe: this bird has the most singular habits; we were informed by several reliable persons that they were abundant all through the winter along the edge of the salt marshes, where fresh springs ooze from the ground. We found them most abundant, frequently flushing them out the summer with *Actodromus macrotata* and *Tringa alpina* which by the way I saw here for the first time. Its note was a mellow tweet very like that of the Puffin. The English snipe is also found in little pond holes only a few rods square in the midst of the woods. The second day we took a lower, inland course: shot some 27 Quail and three

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October

Buffed grouse: the latter are much tamer here than at home frequently lying well even in open cover: upon shooting one down in a little glade in the woods a small hawk (*Accipiter*) stooped down apparently to pick it up, when I shot him with the other barrel. The Quail on the Cape were all destroyed in the same winter of 1866-7 and the next year 500 were brought from Chicago and let out and from them came the present stock. *Colaptes auratus* and *Sturn. arctica* were abundant: the former as at H. Garrison's breeds in its house, *Zonotrichia* Cas. are seen frequently starting them from the old weed grown fields and rye stubbles.

The third day Oct. 20 being very windy we had but poor sport killing six Quail only and two Buffed grouse. *Empidonax cupide* I found on the island of Marston eight or ten miles off, and several pairs have been turned out here but have not been since heard from. I shot a *Picus villosus* that probably came from the North as its feathers were much stained, and two *Brachyotus* Cas. that I started from a sandy heath near the shore. *Barbo Virgin.* is common and breeds here, Coots do not fly in a perpendicular migration here as on the East coast but "bed" during the Autumn in the Vineyard sounds. They shoot many ducks with dogs trained as "tossers" to keep back and forward on the shore. Some thirty years ago Captain Baxter shot two large wild white Geans in a pond that he showed us: has not heard of any since. Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> left for home this morning



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Jan. 2 Obtained a *Mergus serrator* in the market with blotches of black coming in about the head and was much surprised to find on dissection that it was a ♀.

Jan. 3 At a meeting of the Boston Soc. Nat. History last evening I was appointed assistant to Dr. Brewer on birds.

Jan. 10 A specimen of *Sturnella magna* was taken by R. Davis on the Belmont meadows from a flock that always winters there: it had the black cravat nearly as pure as in spring.

" 12 Saw two *J. migratorius* & a single *Am. cedrorum* near a cedar grove on Belmont hill: this is the earliest spring date I have of the latter but I think it probable that they all there have wintered there although there will soon be an influx of birds N.

Jan. 13 Found in the market three or four *Haemula glacialis* imm. that came in with some "Whistlers" from Providence R.I.

Jan. 14 Drove over to Brooklyn in P.M. with Mr. J. Nesbit and with him called on, & was introduced to, Mr. E. A. Boardman: found him a thin, small nervous man plain but a perfect gentleman withal. He informed me that he has found *Cuv. leucophaea* breeding both in winter & summer, that *Ed. fuscescens* is always common through the summer that *D. castanea* breeds sparingly while *D. tigrina*

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is uncertain some years abundant in the breeding seasons but others quite rare (Calais Me) He starts for Florida to morrow and showed us a very fine looking English pointer, that he wished to sell for \$30.00

Jan. 17 Finished the identification of a box of Petendans belonging to the Soc. They have skins of some sixteen species, some of them very interesting, all from Guatemala, our *S. bathyura* & *S. spinus*, are both found there.

Jan. 18 The winter birds are beginning to become more common, evidently having already begun to move N. R. Deane saw several species to day in abundance, *S. monticola*, *Parus atr.*, *Cyanura cris.*, two *Mel. ruticollis* & a *Colaptes auratus*. For the past month birds have been scarcer than I ever saw them before.

Jan. 20 Found a bunch of six *Zenaidura macr.* in the market from Halibton Ind. also two *Struthio magna*, very dark plumaged from the same locality.

Jan. 22 Saw a large flock of Crows Ann feeding on the ice in the basin; have seen them at intervals through the winter. Saw a *Larus argentatus* sail down to the air from a considerable elevation, in a beautiful sweep, drop his feet and alight closing his wings without a single flap.



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Jan. 24 In the market looked over a box of  
 duck from Baltimore, containing *M. serrator*  
*Pidentia Am.*, and *Harlda glacialis*.

Jan. 25 In a bunch of duck from Cape Cod  
 found a dozen or more *Pidentia Am.* in all  
 plumages, the young ♂ blotched with black, also  
 three or four *Melanitta retincta* im. and ad.  
*Harlda glacialis*. In the afternoon worked up  
 a number of *Picidae* that I had been unable  
 to identify at home, from a fine French  
 monograph on the Woodpeckers by Malherbe.  
 Afterwards went over to the Soc. rooms with  
 Dr. Brewer and opened many of the cases of  
 mounted birds. Found many interesting specimens.  
 Concluded that *Picus Harrisii* was only a race  
 of *P. villosus* and *P. Gardneri* of *P. pubescens*.  
*P. vittatus* is undoubtedly good and *P. scalaris* may  
 be distinct from it but it looked suspiciously  
 like a young male of that species.

Jan. 26 In the market found some fine ♂  
*M. serrator*, some *Som. mollissima*, and several  
*Bucephala Am.* & *B. Islandica* all from Cape Cod.  
 Bought a ♂ *M. serrator* & a *S. mollissima* at 25¢  
 and an *Antelope* head for 1.00.

" 28 Took a walk up through Watertown this  
 morning, and in spite of a constant fall of snow  
 saw quite a number of birds. Back of the Cemetery near  
 the river saw a fine *Buteo borealis* go light colored  
 above that he looked quite white. followed him  
 about for some time & got quite near him several  
 times: once he sailed over a small company

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of Blue jays, which scathed in great alarm in all directions but when he lit in a great oak near by several of them followed him perching above him. On the farm near the asparagus bed came across a small flock of Spizella mont. all sitting perfectly silent & motionless in the lower branches of an apple tree, with the feathers on the rump raised ~~and~~ the tail bowed and drooping & the head drawn nearly out of sight between the shoulders presenting altogether a picture of perfect woe & dispondency harmonizing well with the lowering sky and thick falling snow. In contrast with these I met also on a flock of Cyanura cristata with one Colaptes auratus, full of life & spirits: the latter bird I have no doubt has wintered with us as usual though I have not been out enough to see it. Here I also saw a single T. migratorius sitting silent & still on a tall tree and afterwards two more came down with a few feeble notes and lit near the asparagus bed: a little later they will be abundant here. A flock of Parus stricapillus accompanied by a Certhia Aur. were feeding in a cedar grove and after whistling a few notes one of the males commenced his answering "te-derry". In Fresh pond grove saw a flock of thirty or more Chrysomitris tristis that has wintered there, feeding in a birch tree. Saw also a small flock of C. aur. A large flock of Junco hyemalis was seen in the grove by R. Deane last Friday Jan 26<sup>th</sup>. In the afternoon went down to see J. H. Allen for the first time since his return: found R. Deane there and stayed about two hours. Among other interesting facts he told me that on the Kansas plains he found Colaptes



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Jan. - Feb.

immatures breeding in holes bored by the bird in perpendicular cliffs, and Zenaidura Macr. breeding on the ground on the bare prairies in great numbers. He read us a letter from Combs that surprised me much; he says that both he and Prof. Baird are convinced of the truth of Mr. Allen's conservative theories in regard to the non validity of many ~~N.A.~~ birds and mammals, as species, and that in their future publications they propose to strike out upwards of a hundred species of N.A. birds: a great triumph for G. A. A.

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> Saw a fine adult Halastur leuccephalus in the market, shot at Scudbury, Mass. with the white tail feathers edged and tipped with dark brown but was not able to purchase it at any price.

Jan. 31 In a barrel of ducks fresh from Norfolk Va found the following species Athyra Vallinaria, Marca Hu. Dafila acuta, Anas obscura, Bernicla Can. in numbers. Fulix collaris a female, and Eristiatura rubida a male in the second year, with a white patch on the cheeks.

Feb. 1 In the afternoon went down to the Soc. rooms and with Dr. Brewer made a catalogue of the mounted Picidae. Found several specimens wrongly labelled. Saw Picus Harrisii, and P. Phillipsii, the latter is very like the ♀ P. villosus with a washing of yellow in the white of the sides of the occiput.

" 6 In the afternoon went down to the Soc. rooms & unpacked a box of birds from J. Kunklin, Wis. Among them was the so called Bernicla frontalis; it looked to me very like an immature B. albifrons. He sent also two fine ♂ Euraea versipennis, a ♂ Geoth. Philadelphia, and a ♂ Sporonis agilis taken in May: it did not appear to differ much from my

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February

full adults though perhaps a shade more ashy on the crown. Saw also among the Soc. kind *Pipilo megalonyx*; differs from ours by having the scapulars white; do not think it good; I also a pair of *Emp. pusillus* taken in Wis. it was so near *Trilli* that I could not see any difference.

Feb. 7 Received my first letter from C. J. Maynard, dated Blue Spring Fls. He writes that Prof. Baird now considers his *Eutromyx Bairdii* another & a new species. *Larus argentatus* has been abundant all winter and continues so, among the shipping in the harbor.

" 8 In the afternoon went down with H. W. Henshaw to see Albin's Western collection, of which we examined about half before dark. Found many of them extremely interesting as peculiarly colored forms of our ordinary Eastern species and many others good species and rare in collections. He had *Actrolornus Bairdii* in rather different plumage from Henry's Eastern specimen, a strange looking *Pucara* or *Backman's* I think, and a strangely marked sparrow possibly new (*Poo. belli* as afterwards determined).

" 9 A large lot of ducks in the market from Cape Cod, among them two *Fulix affinis* which I was not before aware ever bred here. *Anas obscura* is sent in all through the winter from the same locality. Among a large bunch of *Plectropterus virgatus* in the market found many of the males in nearly summer plumage with hardly a trace of brown anywhere, and the heads nearly pure white. In the afternoon took a drive back into Belmont and near the



1872  
Feb. 12Middlebury County, Mass. - Watutown

Payson place saw a flock of 16 *T. migratorius* flying: a little further on saw a *Colinus borealis*.  
 He sat on the topmost twig of a walnut tree directly over a Red squirrel, and every time the latter moved, looked down at him in a frightened way, nervously half-opening his wings. Saw also a large flock of *Spiz. monticola* and a fine *Buteo borealis* in the Cambridge Cemetery: the latter I tried to shoot but the high bells frightened him and he started before I got within range.

Feb. 12 A perfect winter day, warm clear and still, which I spent among the birds. Started off with my collecting gun just after breakfast. Struck over through the Cemetery where I started my old friend the *Buteo borealis* from the identical branch on which he sat both times before and discovered the attraction of this spot in approaching ditch of open water probably rich in rats' refuse: left a trap for him baited with a dead mouse. On "the farm" found a flock of three *Amphispiza* ad. a flock of five *Junco hyemalis*, *Cyanura cristata* *Corvus Am.* *Spiz. monticola* and *Parus atricapillus*. Along Mt. Auburn fence saw several *Melospiza mel.* and heard one warbling in a faint constrained tone, its spring song. Two *Cuthia Am.* I found on shooting, was a pair; when one got separated any distance, the other seemed quite solicitous about it, uttering loudly pre-pre pre; creep, which being answered it flew to the foot of a neighboring tree & running up uttered a number of low congratulatory notes. When they found me watching, that they would remain perfectly motionless & silent for many minutes looking like a kale of brown bark. Heard one or two

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Feb. 12

Middlesex County, Mass. - Watertown.

*Chrysomitris tristis* and a flock of *Ph. invariabilis* flying  
 over high, coming from the way of the pond. Found  
 three or four *S. singatorius* running on the snow  
 on the edge of a cedar grove also a single *Am.*  
*admirabilis* on a neighboring tree. Shot a pair of  
*Pitta Carolinensis* in very fine plumage: they  
 kept up a continual calling to one another in ~~low~~  
 tones uttering many notes so softly modulated that  
 they were scarcely audible beyond a few yards &  
 many of them quite phrasing, very now and then  
 the usual grating hank hank hank would  
 be given: when closely watched like the creepers  
 they remained perfectly immovable with the  
 exception of an occasional quick turn of the  
 head but on leaving them a short time, I found  
 them on my return as busy and noisy as ever.  
 When the ♂ was shot the ♀ showed much  
 solicitude until he too, met the same fate. The  
 attachment in this species evidently con-  
 tinues for life as you find them always in  
 pairs at all seasons: with *S. Can.* I think  
 it is different as far as my observations have  
 gone. Got in about 3.30 P.M. with ten birds,  
 having had a most enjoyable day: in the early  
 part of the forenoon made a pretty shot at a  
 Blue Jay as he flew over my head. In the  
 afternoon skinned five of my birds. Thirteen  
 species were secured altogether this morning.

Feb. 13 *Larus argentatus* comes up into the basin  
 whenever the ice breaks up at all, especially at  
 high tide: this morning several hundred were  
 fishing for the garbage that forms their principal  
 food: sitting on the ice among a small group of  
 them were several crows with which they kept  
 up continual strife opening their wings and



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February

running at them in a curious manner: in the air the Crows had rather the better of it however chasing the Gulls without any difficulty. This species (*L. argentatus*) fishes in the following manner, flying at the height of perhaps thirty feet above the surface the moment they perceive anything in the water beneath they suddenly join themselves in the air remaining in one spot for many seconds, with quickly flapping wings, then with a graceful sweep drop ~~gradually~~ to the water beneath, and as they pick up with their bills drop their feet into the water trailing them for a few feet as they rise. While rising I have several times seen them shake themselves violently with a single quick perpendicular flap of the wings. One of the Belmont flock of *Str. magna* has been to day by R. Dems. Larva

14 Canada Sculp duck in the near but to day from the Cape; it was of the *G. marila* type very large & black.

" 18 Saw several large flocks of *A. cedrorum* flying over our yard, during the day. Heard also several *Pegurus satrapes*

" 22 A cold windy day, the falling to 8° by sunset. Took the first train for Concord with Charlie and Mr. Gustavus Farley. Found Jim at the hotel and immediately started, crossing Shute's bridge and striking North for Hubbard's run: here we started three *Tetrao umbellus* and I missed a hard brush shot: just before this as we passed through a small alder thicket a Rabbit started and I killed him. Soon afterwards Charlie & I became separated from Jim & Farley, and kept

1872  
Feb. 22

on through the woods due North till we came in sight of the town of Carleton: then striking West about noon we came across our friends again in "Fifty acre" meadow we having killed each a Grouse, and they our ~~do. rabbit~~ the rabbit. Jim now took the lead and brought us shortly into a perfect Paradise for game: rabbits continually ~~was~~ hopping up and Partridges thicker than I ever saw them before. Charlie & I fired about an equal number of times, but my chances averaged better and consequently my misses were more inexcusable: by 2 P.M. I had fired all my cartridges killing a Grouse with my last shot. Mr. Farley being now completely tired out, lent me his Game br. loader and Jim and I struck obliquely for home while he and Charlie took the straight road for Concord. I fired three more shots but did not kill with either. We crossed the river to Hoods hill, ~~then~~ failing to find anything there, shouldered our guns and got into C. by 4.30 P.M. after a very hard days tramp.

The bag was: C. Carter, Rabbits 3, Grouse 1, <sup>Gray squirrel</sup> 1. J. C. Miller Grouse 1, Rabbit 1. J. Farley Rabbit 2. W. Brewster Grouse 2, Rabbits 3. Total Grouse 4. Rabbits 9 Squirrel 1. I fired in all twenty eight shots & Charlie nearly as many. We started by actual count forty Grouse and more than half as many Rabbits. The walking in the woods was very bad in many places the snow being six or eight inches deep with a hard crust. On the open however the ground was nearly bare. For birds I saw several flocks of Cyanus crist. (in one of them a C. crist. auratus)



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February

two *Picus pubescens*, a *Certhia* Am. several companies of *Spizella mont.* *Parus atricapillus* and one very large flock of *Ph. nivalis*, which with a few Crows and *Bonasa umbellus* counted up nine species.

Feb. 23 Mr. Deane went down to Chulna beach where he found hundred of *Ph. nivalis*; several males, out of about a dozen taken, were in very perfect plumage with perfectly black and white plumage on the wings; not so near the summer plumage however as those I saw in the market a few weeks ago: the remainder were of the ordinary color but varied more than the large birds I took last winter. He saw multitudes of *Larus argentatus* and repeatedly observed them take up large mussel shells high into the air and dropping them on the beach to break them, following them quickly down and feasting on the exposed animal. He also observed large flocks of ducks probably Coots.

" 23 In the market found a very small male *Accipiter fuscus* taken on Cape Cod: it was in perfectly adult plumage, the upper parts a uniform fine slaty blue color; In the stomach found the partially masticated remains of a *Spiz monticola* including the bill and legs and in the crop a cleanly plucked *Parus atricap.* the intestinal portions of which were filled with large tapeworms about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches long, and apparently all dead.

" 28 Took the 8.15 horn car for Chulna beach with H. A. Purdie, and arrived there at 9.30. Found only a very few birds on the beach compared with the number seen the 23<sup>rd</sup> by R. Deane.

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Feb. 28

probably on account of the raging N. wind that prevailed all day, and prevented their feeding in so exposed a situation. What few we found were at high water along the ridges of scraped up ice, and in a small weed-grown garden back of the hotel where we started a flock of thirty or more. They were all remarkably shy, having been evidently much harassed and evinced great caution. Traps used would not permit an approach nearer than 100 yds. and single birds showing surprising wariness. We saw a few *Larus argentatus* far out to sea tacking against the wind but none were observed on the beach. In a little ~~shrub~~ swamp back from the sea we found a *M. melodia*, and in a thicket of alders fifteen or more feet high found ~~the~~ nest of *Agelaius phoeniceus*, about two feet from the ground, which in summer must have been completely shaded by the trees above, a situation quite unique. Mr. Burdick finding the cold unendurable we returned at 1.15 getting home by 3 P.M. A single *Furcula migratoria* was seen in Cambridge by R. Dean. *Amphisp. cedrorum* is remarkably abundant this winter, W. D. Scott taking 35 in two days last week. I see or hear them nearly every day now around our place. The following is a list of the ducks taken on our Mass. coast this winter as observed in the markets.

*Anas obscura*, plentiful from the Cape every week.  
*Bonapheala islandica*, not frequent from the coast  
 two adults obtained.  
 " *Americana*, sent into the market in large numbers nearly every day. (over)



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Bucephala albeola, a few specimens the greater part of them ♂ in full plumage, sent in from the Cape.

Fulix affinis, a few sent in at intervals from the Cape: several of them were of the F. marila type.

Somateria mollissima, moderate numbers, mostly from the Cape.

" spectabilis, two specimens early in the winter from Point Shirley.

Mergus serrator, very abundant in the market.

" Americus, their numbers in proportion to the preceding in the market, are about one in twenty; adults of both species occasionally seen.

Melanitta velutina, large numbers sent in mostly immature birds.

Oidemia Americana, several large lots sent in, at intervals during the winter, both adults &c. (did not detect a single specimen of Pelecanus among traps of the two preceding species sent in on different occasions from various localities on the coast.)

From Chesapeake Bay were received all through the winter Myas obscura, A. boschas, D. acuta, Mareca Americana, Myas velutina, A. Americana, Spatula clypeata, S. rubida, Bonasa Canadensis, B. bruta.

Mar. 4. Rose at 6 and took a tramp up through Watertown Pond & the Portus borealis.

1872

March 4, 8

in his accustomed place in the Cemetery with a large flock *Cyanura cristata* a few hundred yards off, mimicking the scream of his cousin *B. hirtatus*; as frightened at my approach he took flight, and sailed over the tuius throwing the screams were redoubled with a taunting and highly insulting inflection. Though the imitation was very perfect. On "the farm" found a very large flock of *S. cedrorum* fifty or more, and a company of about a dozen *Turdus migratorius*; saw numbers of scattering birds of the latter species at different points, and heard a ♂ practising the spring song in a faint warbling tone; Saw also *Colaptes auratus* and the ever present *Parus atricapillus*. Killed a dozen *S. cedrorum* at a shot and a single *P. atricapillus* and got back to the house by 9.30: of the former only three possessed the waxen appendages on the wings.

Mar. 8 After coming out from the city went up on "the farm." Found a flock of *Amphispiza* ad. and about twenty *T. migratorius* on the azaleas bud, and shot one of the latter, a ♀ *Phaps pubescens* and a ♀ *Parus atricapillus*; all the latter taken this winter are very pale. Coming home through the country came across a *Colaptes auratus* that was feeding on an *Arvicola riparius*; and upon firing a long shot at him he dropped it; in flying he carried it in his bill with his head much bowed as though he found it a heavy burden. I afterwards fired another shot at him but for some unaccountable reason missed. Got home by dark with these birds.



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March 9, 18

Mar. 9 Rose at 7 A.M. and took a tramp up through Watertown. Found several flocks of *A. californicus* on the farm and in four shots (5-5-4-4) killed 18 one of them with curious white spots on the primaries and two with red on the tails. Saw about thirty *S. migratorius* and shot one. Heard the first Song Sparrows of spring singing vigorously at intervals of half a minute or more. Many of the Robins were also singing but in that peculiar warbling undertone peculiar to both this bird and *M. melodia* before the true opening of the song season. Saw four Pileated Woodpeckers and as there have been none seen on the farm through the winter, have no doubt but they have begun working up from the South. Saw also a Colaptes and shot a junco by, in snowing condition all covered with pin feathers. In the afternoon took a ride and saw two *Spiz. monticola*; they are however very scarce now as the birds wintering with us have begun to move North.

" 19 For the last ten days the weather has been very cold and wintry the therm. not rising much above freezing at noon & at night falling often to 10. Several light falls of snow. March 14 H. W. Henshaw thought he heard a *Sialia sialis* but no other spring birds have been reported.

Went up on "the farm" this morning with Henry but shot only a single *Parus stricif.* Saw a flock of about (a dozen) *Junco hyemalis* some of the ♂ singing though their notes were not quite perfect. *Ampelis cedrorum* is quite scarce and

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March 22, 25

they probably from our shooting so many: we  
saw none this morning. I saw a number of *T.*  
*nigritarius*: the juncos chase them furiously,  
have also seen *Amphisp.* do the same.

March 22 In the afternoon while taking a ride in Belmont ~~soon~~ across a flock of four *Scalia* *sialis* the first that have been seen. They were flitting about among some buckthorn bushes on the south side of a hill and I doubt not had been there a week or more. I heard no note from them save a hoarse and almost inaudible warble. I shot one which was in good condition with the testicles developed to their fullest size. The weather continues very warm and we have literally had no frosts yet of winter.

March 25 - Heard the note of a *Phetoproanus*  
*virealis* repeated several times as the bird passed  
overhead in a N direction.

In the afternoon took a ride up through Belmont with Henry H. and was delighted to come across a flock of about 25 *H. phoeniceus* with a few *D. versicolor* sprinkled in, Auduball. ♂. Several of them turning up in chorus, and at the same time a Robin from a neighboring tree uttering one of its mellow spring call notes, made up a perfect desert pleasing and of prime value. ~~There~~  
With considerable trouble I stalked the flock and getting a long shot wounded two, but wings one of which I got. They were feeding at the time in an old corn field and here I also put up eight Quail but would not shoot them. There has evidently been quite a migration of Robins



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March 26-27

as we saw them ~~highly~~ in the open fields at many points. *Pipilo maculatus* was also seen by several this morning. Coming down from Belmont I spied a *Buteo lineatus* sitting in an apple tree and Harry driving in to him he started about 100 yds off and came directly up to within about 30 yds. but as the horn was not stopped quickly enough he got about 40, before I fired & escaped with the loss of a crown of feathers. I was very much chagrined as it was a very fine adult bird showing very high color on the upper parts.

March 26 A fine adult *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* was shot by a Mr. Lee this morning in the oak grove back of Belmont on Fresh Pond: a singular season for so rare a summer visitant to appear here but an undoubted note as I saw the bird in the flesh a few hours after its death at Goodale's. About forty *Fulica* all typical "marila" came in to the market this morning from the Cape.

" 27 The weather this far has been cold and stormy but to day there was a slight break and the therm. rose to 40°. In the P.M. took a run up through the swamps to Belmont. Shot five Chickadees & a Song Sparrow. *M. melodia* was quite frequent along the fishy stream courses, and *Am. trichas* sang two *T. migratorius* several *Sturnella magna* these however probably winter vs. Saw also several Muskrat on the Belmont brook and just at sunset as I was pulling along towards home two *M. melodia* struck up their chanting songs. In market examined about 90 *Bucphalos* from the Quebec, capids and contrary to my expectations

1872

March 30, Apr. 3 Concord River.

did not find a single typical *islandica* among them nor indeed any approach to that type. Out of the whole number at least  $\frac{9}{10}$  were adult males some of them however showing traces of brown in the green of the head; the other  $\frac{1}{10}$  were mostly immatures males with only one or two o. One specimen, a large series of juveniles in another lot from this State I found some with terminal band on maxilla without band on ~~maxilla~~ mandible; others with with the dusky yellow bill of *B. Americana*, had the coverts banded quite conspicuously.

Mar. 30 Attended a picnic at Concord last night, stopping with the F's. After breakfast strolled down to the river and heard the first full spring chorus of bird notes. Blue birds, *Agelaius phoeniceus*, *Set. ferrugineus* and *Motothrus fluvialis* the last two new arrivals. Saw also a flock of Sheldrakes at the boat landing fishing in the river.

April 3. A lovely spring day warm and sunny. Took first train to Concord taking my br. wagon. Started immediately for the river with Dan. At the first bend found them Sheldrakes & two Blacks and brushed the boat for them but the latter were too shy for us, and they all went off before we got within shot. Then kept down river, up N. Branch about half a mile when we saw six Whistlers and ~~a~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~pair~~ <sup>pair</sup> of *Aix sponsa* at a shot dropping our brushed boat down on them with the current. Dan, also killed a small hawk which fell across the river and was lost. I also wounded a sparrow that looked very like *Centurus Bairdi* but failed to get it. Then kept down stream to about a mile



April 3-5

Did not succeed in getting a single shot at Sheldrakes though we saw numerous Wood ducks on every occasion got in the way and tempted a long shot that started the rest. Pulled back to Flint's bridge which

the rest, ~~Pushed~~ back to Flint's bridge which we reached just in time for me to catch the last train, six thirty, having had a most delightful day. Marsh rats were swimming around in great abundance especially at noon time.

Hawks of all kinds are migrating and  
thicker than I ever saw them before. I  
detected *Buteo borealis*, *Accipiter fuscus*, *Falco columbarius*,  
*Accip. cooperi* and everywhere *Circus hudsonius*.

Total bag of W.B. Wood Duck 3 No. of shots fired 10

April 4 Had our long talked of pigeon shoot to day at Waverley. Five of us shot at the trap and R. Deane scored. The score was as follows

Pigeon shoot at Waverly April 4<sup>th</sup>

21 yds. rise, ground trap, sing shoot without bands.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Extras in ring
George Linder	1	1	1	1	1	00	1	1	0	1	5		
W. Brewster	1	01	00	1	00	1	01	1	00	1	5	2	
J. Nesbit	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	00	4		
C. Carter	1	00	1	1	00	01	1	1	0		5		
G. C. Nelson	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	00	01		5		

April 9<sup>th</sup> Went up to Concord with R. Deane and getting Dan's boat started down river. At the French's landing saw seven Whistlers & four "Blacks." Bushed the boat and paddled down river. At Egg rock paddled on to a ♂ Whistler but he proved shy & was out of range. At Balds hill I shot a Crow which falling

1872April 5

marly parts of a mile off we discovered by another Cross hovering over it and making a great outcry something as the Terns do. Here I paddled Ruth on the ten Sheldrakes (*M. Americanus*, and by the way think now that I was mistaken in their identification of the *M. serrator* seen flying here on last trip, and that it ~~does~~ does not occur here) and firing our four barrels into them we shot down three, two of which we got, the other shot dead floated off among the ice & was lost. Went nearly down to Carlyle bridge and saw in all about thirty ducks "Whistlers" & "Blackies" included. Ruth paddled me on to two Sheldrakes & I ~~shelled~~ shot & wounded the other. The Sheldrakes were very interesting to watch, keeping on the flooded meadows, in about two feet of water. Drove frequently and swallowed fish as large as seven inches long, mostly "minnows". Their notes were a harsh ~~croak~~ croak, and a long, rolling, guttural cry, the latter I think uttered only by the males, and audible at an immense distance. Did not appear to be paired; the males rather in excess over the females; they were very shy flying a quarter of a mile off if the exposed side of the boat turned towards them. The "Whistlers" were found impossible to approach: the noise made by their could be heard a long way off. On the Sheldrakes we noticed one peculiarity. When part of the flock were alarmed at anything, and took wing, the remainder ~~did~~ did not start or show any concern unless the object of suspicion was visible to them also.

April 12 Beat the Belmont meadows for Snipe but found the ground all hard underneath even in the runs and of course no birds; nothing but



1872

April 16-22

stragglers can have arrived as yet. A Woodcock was started from the street at the lower end of Quincy market Boston, this morning by one of the Junco club.

Apr. 16 R. Deane started 13 Snipe, 11 of them at Belmont.

" 17 Left at 4.30 and started over to Medford with the Nesbit brothers to a field reported full of Snipe. Found them all gone but four or five which were too shy to be shot. Then after trying in vain to force a Virginia Rail to fly, because, probably, it was in a small isolated "bush" patch with no other cover near, struck over to the Fresh pond marshes: here Bob. Nesbit and I put up two Snipe and I killed them both. Then he went home and I struck up to Belmont where I saw a Mr. Thayer start a dozen Scaup at a single rise: then we followed about all the forenoon and shot all but one. I killing 4, Thayer 5, and R. Deane 1. Dart made ~~two~~ very nice mounts. I had two good double shots but only killed a single bird each time. The Snipe were very wild although the day was as warm & fine as possible. Thayer to whom at first sight I took a great dislike, was so ungentlemanly as to pick up and detain one of my wounded birds. All these birds must have come in the heavy rain storm of Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup>, as there were only two seen there by Thayer Monday. I saw also on the meadow two Boston. Sparrows. Bailey and Martin. The frost is not yet all out in the meadows.

" 22 Got my new Yorks Co. loader to day and was very much pleased with its beauty & finish. Hunt must have made four targets & fired at shot

1872

April 24-27

remarkably well; also shot a muskrat, its first victim.

April 24 In the afternoon drove up to Belmont hatched, and tried for Snipe. Put up four and killed two just at dusk, firing six shots & killing with the first from my new gun.

" 25 Started at 6 with Charlie Carter and drove up to Wayland; stopping first at Belmont where we put up three Snipe but did not kill any. Arrived there about 11 and left the horse in ~~the~~ the woods. Put up about twelve birds altogether of which I bagged seven and Charlie one; Charlie was however afflicted by a severe headache which forced him to knock off and return to the wagon early in the afternoon. My new gun shot beautifully killing 7 Snipe in 14 shots. The birds were found along a brook in a tussocky meadow where they lay like rails. Dart did not make any stiff points but raised us many birds by poking them up. Got home by 7 P.M. The day was warm with a light S. wind. Put up two Snipe in an old corn field where the ground was soft & wet. Drove one bird up into an apple orchard on a high hill where he lay till flushed, under a small Crisp pile. Saw many Black ducks and was much interested with watching them courting one evening, several drakes chasing a female high up in the air, doubling twisting and circling about, frequently coming down from a great height with set wings. They build here in numbers.

Apr. 27 Went up on the Belmont meadows this morning and put up three Snipe but one



1872

April 29-30

near Block island, killing two of them; also shot a q Pigeon hawk flying.

April 29. Mr. G. N. Boardman called to see me to day having just returned from Florida, and among other things he told me the following facts relating to Calais Me. *Scirya maritima*, is abundant through the winter falling both on sand beaches and rocky shores. frequently buries in deep water like *Phalaropus*. Has never seen *Oporornis agilis* there. *Som. spectabilis* is not uncommon; breeds on Grand Manan. Has taken three black specimens of *Sciurus Hudsonius* in our locality.

Apr. 30 Woodcock - their love song; at Carlsruhe.

Took the 2.30 train for Concord. Getting a team at the stable I met Jim M. at the 5 train, and we drove up to Mr. Robbins' in Carlsruhe, trying without success for Snipe at several points on the way. Mr. Robbins, a plain sensible ~~man~~, expressed surprise at my coming "all the way from Boston to hear a Woodcock sing" and feared that I should be disappointed as a cold East wind made the night an unfavorable one for this performance. However about fifteen minutes after sundown we started out and in the first cove we came to old "Dodge" pointed & flushed a Woodcock that rose with the usual whistle though it was now quite dusky. Shortly after coming round the base of a hill our guide suddenly exclaimed "there's one let last" and listening intently I heard a harsh cry sounding at a distance. Very like the note of *Chordeiles popeline*. in a few moments we heard the whistling of wings as the bird rose & the next moment I saw him dimly outlined against the

1872Song of the Woodcock.April 30

Western sky mounting straight up; the bird had turned and as he started downward I lost him but then began his song and almost indescribable warbling mixture of liquid melodious sounds: as the song ceased and the bird dropped to the ground I was almost beside myself with excitement & pleasure and listened breathlessly for another repetition.

After hearing him go up several times Mr. B. said that if we ran directly to the spot where he rose & concealed ourselves before he came down we should hear a note that but few had ever listened to, as it was audible but a few yards off. This we tried & starting at full speed when the bird got up, we succeeded in concealing ourselves in a large ground juniper on the edge of a little springy hole, just as the last notes of the Woodcock song died away in the air overhead and the bird dropped within five yards of us, the rustling of feathers being distinctly audible as it closed its wings.

There we lay for a half hour or more listening to its strange vibrating cry & occasionally catching a momentary glimpse of its form as it rustled over the brown grass within a few feet of us, but as the light had now faded quite away in the West it did not go up again, and finally getting tired of listening we sent on the dog & ended the performance for that night.

Description of notes & song. The Woodcock rises and after flying horizontally and silently close to the ground for about twenty yds. mounts straight up in a broad spiral sweep its wings whistling loudly: higher & higher it rises drifting off with the wind its wings still whistling steadily, now it is fully a hundred yards high, and finally lost to sight in the uncertain light but it has reached its



1872

April 30Song of the Woodcock

highest point & pausing a few moments ~~at the summit~~ descend; the whistling hitherto perfectly even & uniform now becomes broken or divided into syllables like chipp-chipp-chipp — chipp-chipp rapidly increasing in quickness & volume (all this probably produced by rapid beats of the wings the pauses representing intervals of sailing) now with a whist-suit (from the throat) like the commencement of Mr. Malvadia's song) begins a rapid ecstatic warble much like that of the canary but more liquid and sweet, becoming ~~still sweeter and more~~ ~~protracted~~ as the bird approaches the ground till it ends in perfect tumult of rapid song & suddenly cut short, ~~the bird drops to the earth in silence~~. ~~then follows a few seconds interval of silence~~; an interval of a few seconds follows, then you hear a sound like a heavy drop of water falling into a cistern repeated twice or thrice, pt. ul - pt. ul - pt. ul, and in the same breath with the last ~~utterable~~ a hoarse, harsh, pa-a-a sounding out a distance like the cry of the Night hawk, but deeper with a strange vibrating twang, and repeated at intervals of about five seconds, always ~~however~~ with the pt. ul preceding. Sometimes the paap was suddenly choked in the middle of its utterance as if by the bird swallowing something. This harsh cry would be repeated about thirty times when the Woodcock would rise and sing again. As soon as the light faded from the West the song ceased though the other notes were kept up almost without intermission. Mr. Robbins informed me that they make still another noise, by coming down with out wings, a loud cwinnowing whoo whoo whoo whoo, something like the drumming of the Snipe: this is however heard but seldom & only in the warmest weather, indeed on very cold nights they seldom ever sing: about the 1<sup>st</sup> Apr. he could hear as many as six at once,

1872May 7-15

May 7 Started at 4.30 and drove up to Wayland with Mr. J. Nesbit & Mr. Carr, the former taking his two dogs. beat half a day but started only one Snipe which I shot; two were also seen to day on the Fresh pond grounds, the last of the season. At Concord however to day J. C. Melvin started about thirty birds in a few hours. He shot a single bird at the same place May 12.

May 13 Started at 8 and drove farther higher up to Mr. Wellingtons place taking my gun, and beginning at the willows spent the rest of the day stalking back. Made a very fine bag of specimens, a *Cot. Henslowi*, *Mel. Lincolnii*, *Bubo Virgin.* 2 *D. caeruleus*, 3 *My. pusillus* & 4 *Guræa ludovic.* being among the best. Had a cool nice day and got home by 6 P.M.

" 15 Last night took the train to Grantville and met Henry H. at the depot. Mr. S. Sprague was ~~at the depot~~ & I was introduced. Found him a queer reticent sort of man but pleasant enough withal. He is apparently about 55 years of age & very much out of health. He took us to a Hawk's nest but we found nothing in it. This morning Henry & I rose at 4 and started out coming back to breakfast at 8. At 9 started again & tramped till 6 when we had supper. I took the 7.20 train home. Made a very good bag, my best being 2 *Mel. chrysotis*, 3 *Pipen. nuba* (2 ♂), 2 ♂ *Guræa ludovic.*, 3 ♂ & 1 *D. discolor*, & 1 *D. maculosa* & over thirty other common birds. Henry got a ♂ *Accip. fuscus* & 2 *Myi. pusillus*. Had a cool day though quite showery at times, and enjoyed myself much.



1872May 27-30

May 21 Took the first train to Lincoln meeting H. H. Purdie at ~~Waltham~~. Spent the day on the road from there to Concord. Took 34 birds among the best three *Hal. chrysoptha*, & *H. peregrina*, 10 *Pyraura rubra* (70) & 20 *D. carolinensis*. Men overhauled by a policeman, Mr. Sartor by name at Lincoln, but showed my permit & thereby calmed his wrath considerably. Eat dinner at the head of Sandy pond. Had a cool nice day albeit rather too windy and cloudy at times. Saw immense numbers of *D. maculosa* prob. as many as 25 in all. Did not have time to touch on the Henslow meadow.

May 30 Spent the day at Grantville with Henry Henshaw. The morning was clear and beautiful with a cool S. wind but clouds soon gathered & by 3 P. M. we were driven home by a putting rain storm. In Hickles run we each took an *E. flaviventris* and saw distinctly *E. traillii*. I got another *E. flav.* a ♂ *H. chrysoptha*, & *P. rubra*, & *G. ludoviciana* in the course of the day.

1872 June 1

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# Lake Umbagog, Upton Me.

June 1 Took the 7.30 train this morning for Bethel where we arrived at 4.45. Saw a pair of *Actitis macularia* at New Gloucester Me. Took a team with Mr. Stockbridge to drive, and reached Poplar town, N. H. by 7 where we took supper and as a steady drizzling rain which had commenced all the afternoon still continued falling, decided to pass the night. Vireo gilvus stopped at Bethel.

June 2 Clear and a lovely day, cool almost to coldness. Took a walk before breakfast and saw numbers of *E. trailii* and a *G. philadelphia*. Started at 6 and enjoyed the ride amazingly. At the Notch *H. purpurina*, *D. tigrina*, and *D. castanea* began in numbers but were not detected at all before *D. maculosa*, blackburnian, *Hd. schisticeps*, *Cardus swainsoni*, & *J. fuscus* were all taken away through to the Lake. *Mniotilta varia* stopped at the Notch: *Dol. virginicus* & *Cy. cyaneus* abdt. to that point straggled through in small numbers to the lake where I found a pair of each. *E. trailii* was exceedingly abdt. from about a mile below Poplar town to within half that distance of the Lake house. *D. striata* was not common all the way up and migrating. Arrived at the lake. we spent the P. M. in putting our things ready for the week's work, and began the next morning Monday June 3. The observations for the following two weeks are as follows. June 2 birds nearly all in small companies and migrating as the season is much later than last year. *Myio. pusillus* and *D. striata* not uncommon; by June 8 both had disappeared, and birds of all kinds became settled for the season.



1872

June 4-6

of *Picus villosus* we found three nests with young the first June 4<sup>th</sup>. *P. pubescens* was not so common as last year and I saw only one pair of *Picoides arcticus* 2 ♂ & a ♀ were taken June 4<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.

The first five days although frequently lowering and showery, were ~~quite~~ pleasant enough to admit of our collecting every morning. We limited ourselves to 15 birds apiece, starting for the hour when that number was secured. After dinner we commenced on the task of skinning the specimens usually finishing by 6 P.M. when we had supper. After that a paddle out on the lake or a chat in the office with Mr. Gideon Stone the captain of the steamboat & a most intelligent and interesting man, occupied the evening.

We did not on any occasion start out before breakfast (7 A.M.) and by thus systematizing our labors accomplished much more in the end.

June 3 Went up on the hill as far as Frost's. I took 3 *G. philadelph.* (1 ♀) 2 *G. trillix*, 3 *D. tigrina* and shot my first Porcupine. R. Deane 1 *Vireo phil.* 1 *Per. Aud.* & a *B. phil.*

June 4. Went over around Stone's farm. Took 3 *Cont. borealis* 1 *My. crinitus*, 1 *G. phil.* &c.

R. Deane shot a *Picoides arcticus* & another ♀ *V. phil.*

June 5 Cloudy with frequent rain. Shot around near the school house & in the savins. Took 4 *Parus aud.* 1 ♀ *Vireo phil.* and 6 ♂ *D. tigrina*

June 6 Shot around near the house as it rained frequently & the woods were wet. Took 7 *D. tigrina* 5 ♀ and my first *Haplatus pilatus* a fine male which I killed in a high birch tree with a wire cartridge. It did not seem very shy

1872June 7-9

June 7 Clear & warm. Went up on the hill above Frost's. Took 5 G. Philadelph. (2 ♀) & a ♂ Parn. lark.

June 8 Rained so hard that we did not get out all day.

June 9 Clear and cool. After breakfast put the skiff into the river above the dam and paddled up to the meadows making our carry of about 100 yds. and getting there about at 3 P.M. The distance is said to be three miles but it is at least five. The "meadows" were a large natural bath, perhaps a mile long and half as far across with a stream winding down through the middle. owing however to the heavy rain falls lately the water had risen over its banks to the depth of three or four feet and as we passed out from the ~~dark~~ forest shaded stream into this beautiful little lake the scene was fine beyond description with towering mountains rising on all sides in the back ground, and the forest ~~surface~~ shading from the dark spruce and fir on their summits to the lighter green of the poplars & maples growing on the lower edges. Then however ~~all~~ ~~far~~ ~~away~~ in the wilderness the ~~old~~ ~~friends~~ ~~dispelled~~ in part the wildness of the scene. The mellow trill of the Swamp Sparrow came up from the bushes on either shore and the loud cheerful songs of the Robin filled the echoing woods: a Marsh hawk was beating about over the submerged meadow and a large company of Night hawks were "booming" and circling about high up in the sky. Here we heard on all sides a new note



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Upton, Maine.

June 9-11

~~that~~ ~~single~~ ~~slap~~ repeated at intervals of about 20 seconds, and after much time spent in pursuit detected the author in *Emp. flaviventris*: this note which we afterwards heard quite frequently is the true song of the ♂, the ♀ being uttered by both sexes, and is much like the "chirp" of *E. hirs.* We found *E. traillii* very abundant in the Alder bushes along the edge of the meadow and saw a ♂ breeding. Started back about 6 and came down the five miles of river in a little over an hour the current running very fast in places. The scenery was wild & fine though a trifle monotonous with a broad fringe of alders or water willow on the river's edge and a very heavy growth of Spruce & fir among the trees hanging directly over the stream. Water thrushes and redstarts were very abundant along the swampy thickets which *D. castanea*, *D. tigrina*, *D. maculosa* and *G. l. pinigina* were everywhere about in the taller trees. An occasional Wood Duck and a pair of *Ardea herodias* were all the large birds that were seen. In the meadows above however we saw one flock of 16 & another of 18 *Anas obscura*, then we were informed by Mr. Stone were the old drakes. Got back to the house by 8 o'clock.

June 10 Rained hard all day; got out in the afternoon for an hour or two & shot 3 *E. borealis*.

" 11 Clear & warm. Went up on the hill & striking on further than we before, discovered a swamp or cove of swamps, filled with *E. traillii* & took 11 specimens. Shot also a *E. phibadell*, and a pair of *Py. cyanea*.

June 12-14

June 12 Went up to the E. Trullis swamp with Barth & took 9 specimens besides a *C. borealis* &c.

" 13 Clear & warm. Visited the Trullis flycatcher again and secured ~~two~~ also a ♂ & ♀ *philadelphia* and 2 *Guillemot ludoviciana*.

" 14 Started shortly after breakfast and during the spend my last day as pleasantly as possible took the skiff and getting a tow behind the thimbleboat cast loose outside the point in the broad of the lake and spent the forenoon paddling leisurely back skirting along the edge through the stubs. Was much delighted at happening to strike across a ♂ *Picoides arcticus* the first that I had ever seen alive. It was searching a fallen log for insects & I had no difficulty in approaching & shooting it. Heard also for the first time the note of *Loxia curvirostris* a singular rolling guttural cry & very loud. Packed up our ~~baggage~~ <sup>baggage</sup> in the afternoon putting all our skins in one trunk & the clothing &c in the other.

(Copy)  
Birds observed at Upton the not included in the list of 1871 with additional observations on the others.

1. *Junco oreganus* Sparrow, Saw a female in the same place nearly every day and she undoubtedly had a nest in one of the tall stubs on which she usually perched.

(*Acipiter fuscus*, Saw a pair sitting on a tall stub June 10.) Several *Hirundo* 1872

2. " Cooper's, a single bird flying June 9.



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Upton, Maine.

June 2-14

3. Buteo pennsylvanicus. Very common everywhere in the woods. B. birds sw. 73

4. Circus hudsonius, Not very common around the lake.

(Coccyzus erythrophthalmus, saw several) about bird 73

(Pinus villosus, Three nests all with young the first June 4  
P. pubescens, not so common as last year: saw a single pair only; both sexes incubate)

5. Picoides arcticus, These were taken all showing evidence of incubation. A male that I watched for some time was searching ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> feller trees on the lake shore for food, uttering at short intervals a harsh kee different from any Woodpecker note I ever heard before. Both sexes incubate. Mr. Deane who heard this "roll" on the tree trunks describes it as entirely different from that of P. varius.

6. Hypotaenidia villosa. Mr. Deane took a ♀ June 3 and I shot a fine ♂ on the 6<sup>th</sup>. ~~He~~ <sup>She</sup> did not seem very shy, dodging behind the trunk of a large dead tree, <sup>on which he was at work</sup> if I made any sudden movement, ~~he~~ <sup>she</sup> almost immediately showing his head again and in a few minutes sidling around into full view again. I was first attracted to him by his loud singing laugh, ~~kept up~~ <sup>kept up</sup> for nearly a minute without intermission until I wondered how the bird could get breath: this note resembled the spring song of Claytonia auratus very closely but was much louder and a trifle shriller. The female bird killed by Mr. Deane was hammering an old prostrate log to pieces.

June 2-14

Prochilus colubris. Quite common: observed for the first time the courting of the male which passing intertact or more about the branch on which the female was sitting, started down at an angle of 45 deg. almost brushing her back then rising on the opposite side, would turn, give a movement and plunge down again, repeating this shrill chirrup incessantly. This was kept up for a minute or more, where he would either fly off or settle lightly on some twig near his mate.

7. Micruschus grinitus. Took a male in a thicket of spruce & birch on the edge of the clearing; it was silent and shy. On the stage road down toward two individuals, one in Norway and the other in an old orchard about 2 miles to the North of Bethel.

8. Empidonax traillii. On the swamps on top of the hill to the South of the lake, ~~and about~~ a mile from the lake, here we found these birds in extraordinary abundance. In one place, especially, comprising about three acres of alder thickets with scattering poplar saplings along the edge they seemed to absolutely swarm. And after we had shot twenty three, numbers did not appear diminished in the least. Their old nests were everywhere but although at this time (June 13) they were evidently settled for the season we saw only one pair building (June 9). They were very quarrelsome, drove all other birds out of their retreats, kept low down in the bushes frequently flitting from twig to twig not more than six inches above the ground, and launched out after insects more often than the other flycatchers. They have a



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June 2-14

shy and when pursued would start quietly and flitting off near the ground as if to light again within a few yards, would fly the whole length of the thicket. This trick we noticed repeatedly and it was only by using the greatest care & caution that sparrows were procured. They also had a habit of invariably lighting with their backs toward the pursuer; now out of fear were shot in ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> hind. Their notes were numerous & kept up incessantly. The song of the ♂ was a sharp loud, harsh qu-e-e-e varying to qu-e-e-e and sometimes qu-e-e-e-e; this was as frequently uttered from the depths of the thicket as from the tips of the alder bushes and although they sometimes perched in the high trees overhead or on some exposed overhanging limb they sang in such situations! The ordinary note used by both sexes was a putulant pip sometimes repeated several times in quick succession; this also had an angry querulous trill especially when fighting; all their cries were instantly suppressed on ~~the~~ <sup>their</sup> being approached, although the report of a gun did not seem to alarm them much. Their nests were large bulky affairs composed of Spanish moss coarse weed stalks & grass with old lining of pine roots & were placed about breast high in the crotch of a alder or poplar sapling.

E. minimus. Abundant but locally distributed: not found in the forest depths.

E. flaviventris. Heard at last the bona fide song of the male, a single sharp, something like the chuck of E. minimus, and repeated at intervals of about 20 seconds. Found them as last year in the cedar swamps but they were much more numerous in the willow thickets along the edge of Cambridge river.

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Upton, Maine

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June 2-14

Turdus pallasi, Not very common and found only in certain localities; while T. swainsoni was the thrush of the woods and the heavy timber along the streams, this bird affected the high open pastures where the males sang along the edge of the forest. Two nests found June 3 & 11<sup>th</sup> contained each 3 nearly fresh eggs & were both built at the foot of a little fir shrub in open pasture. Laid fifty yds or more from the woods. Their notes differed from those of T. swainsoni in being much finer higher & more ethereal and far surpassed both ~~that~~ <sup>the</sup> bird & T. mustelinus. The olive back's song is more properly compared with that of T. fuscus: it is the same metallic trill shortened and ending in a few bell like notes either with a rising, or falling inflection: then ~~last~~ final notes give it somewhat of a resemblance to the <sup>song of T. pallasi</sup> ~~other~~ song but it is easily recognized after a little experience.

T. fuscus, found them rather common esp along Cambridge river

T. swainsoni. Very common everywhere: usually sang low down and had a habit of flitting a few feet at the end of each utterance (for description of song see T. pallasi above) all <sup>very</sup> typical.

T. alicius. Took a typical specimen June 3 but which time several Northern species were still migrating.

T. migratorius. Extended everywhere into the depths of the forest but common nowhere. Young were flying at our arrival, June 2. <sup>very</sup> common. 73





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June 2-14

as noted last year I should now call rather the  
 expiration, the song usually coming from on or near  
 the ground among the logs; it was short but  
 exquisitely sweet with a warbling termination the  
 whole nearly like whees-whees-whees-whees, tu-tu-  
 tu two varying however in different individuals, in  
 some much shorter whees whees two two.

Occasionally they sang in the air soaring high up  
 like *S. auricapillus* prefixing a few extra notes to  
 the ordinary ones and at the end closing their  
 wings & coming down as if shot to the ground.

*Hel. ruficapilla*, very scarce but generally distributed.  
 Not scarce 73

*H. purpurina*. Quite as numerous as last year

*Sturnus auricapillus*. Not more than three or  
 four individuals observed. Not very common 73

" *noveboracensis*. Not common around the lake  
 but in the swampy thickets all the way up  
 Cambridge river they absolutely swarmed: there  
 is a striking uniformity in the notes of  
 different individuals of the species: they always  
 sing low down and in the darkest depths of their  
 retreats. None flying by house 73

*Dendroica virens*, Not common

*D. caerulea*. Rather frequent in some parts of  
 the woods.

*D. Blackburniana*. Found them abundant & migrating  
 on our arrival, frequenting in small companies  
 low bushes bush piles & apple orchards: by the 5<sup>th</sup>



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Upton, MaineJune 2 - '94

all had left or retired to the tops of the forest trees.  
*Quite common breeding 72*

*D. castaneus*. Migrating on our arrival, by the 5<sup>th</sup> this number even thinned nearly one half (though the were still very numerous) and they ~~were~~ settled for the season. Detected the difference in song between this species & *D. tigrina*; the notes of the present species are fewer and ~~quicker~~ (like gee-gee) than those of the Cape May whose song bears much closer resemblance to that of *D. striata*, being composed of four or five syllables, though without shell repetitions of the syllable gee uttered ~~in~~ rather a slow measured tone and with a rising inflection.

*D. striata*. Not common and migrating up to the 5<sup>th</sup> when they disappeared. Saw them all the way up from Bethel

*D. tigrina*. Common all the way up from the Notch. On dark & rainy weather they came out of the woods and fed among the twigs of low fir & spruce, hanging head downward at the extremity of the branches often continuing in one position for many moments, apparently picking out minute insects from under the leaves. Near a clump of blossoming plum trees directly under our window, in the garden, we were always sure of finding several of them: rather they resorted in company with numbers of Hummingbirds, which however they were continually chasing about. By June 3. we took a fully formed egg but without the shell, from a ♀ and a little later, judging from the <sup>on the breast & abdomen</sup> corrugated skin of several individuals of the same sex, they were all incubating; thus they must be nearly the first warblers to breed in this

1872

June 2-14

region

10. *D. aestiva*. Very rare: a single pair among the plum trees in the garden June 4. Did not detect it anywhere on the road up though it was observed at Bethel last year by Mr. Maynard.

11. *Myiodynastes pusillus*. Saw perhaps half a dozen specimens during the first of our stay: they frequented the brush heaps and thickets along the wood edges and had all disappeared by the 5<sup>th</sup>.

*Pyraura rubra*. Heard a single specimen at such or two N. of the notch.

12. *Vireo Philadelphicus*. Three specimens were taken, all females. The first was shot by Mr. Deane June 3 from the top of a tall beech tree & was silent. The next day he secured another in a thicket of fir and heard it distinctly utter a rather sylvan chip. June 5<sup>th</sup> I was so fortunate as to fall in with the 3<sup>rd</sup> individual and watched it for several moments before shooting: it was in a small beech tree growing in a fir grove, and looked extremely small: its motions it resembled, <sup>the way of the</sup> ~~the~~ ~~the~~ but was even more slow & deliberate than any of them, hopping heavily from one branch to another; I was quite certain that I heard the chip described ~~to~~ ~~it~~ by Mr. D. but may have been mistaken as there were several warblers in the same tree. As we were unable to detect any other individuals upon the strictest watch, and did not hear anywhere in the woods any song that could be referred to the male, ~~and taking into account~~



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Upton, Maine.June 2-14

I infer that these birds must have been migrating, probably ~~farther~~ N. ~~that~~ ~~part~~ of the specimens seem, taking into account the well known facts that the female ~~usually~~ close the migration of a species, would tend to bear out this hypothesis, and in all three individuals the ovaries were but slightly developed showing <sup>that</sup> the time for reproduction was still remote. It has been taken only once before in N.E. at Waterville Me. by C. E. Hamlin, May 31

13 *Mimus ~~carolinensis~~*, Rather rare; bred.

*Anorthura hyemalis*. As was the case last year although they were continually singing around us in the woods we did not succeed in getting a shot at a single individual. June 6th 70

*Certhia Americana*. Not common, raised & in full song am now of the opinion that the notes heard in Mass. and described in my Br. record, were the practising of the young bird as they were more protracted & warbling than the song heard in Me which was short loud and emphatic though without very sweet.

Sitta. Rare. Saw them more frequently than last year but the species was still not very numerous. Although all the specimens taken & skinned were adults, their notes had at this season a high nasal tone not heard in autumn & even kept up incessantly like the complainings of a young bird.

14. *Parus Hudsonicus*. Found them rather frequent in a certain tract of fir & spruce forest

1872

June 2-14

race the labr. This bird must breed twice in the season as several specimens are so perfect plumage that no external marks distinguished them from the adult were clearly shown on dissection by the rudimentary condition of the genital organs & the softness of the skull to be birds of not more than three or four months of age, while others of both sexes were taken with those organs excited to the highest degree although none of them had I think actually laid. The young went in companies of six or eight frequently accompanied by a pair of *P. atricapillus*: they kept invariably in the thickest spruce trees usually near the top and were very silent quiet and hard to detect: they had all the motions of *P. atricap.* though perhaps a trifle less lively and animated, and the same emphatic chirp. another note they also used which possibly was the song of the ~~adult~~, a single che-day day very different from anything I ever heard from the other bird.

*Chrysomitris pinus*. Saw it twice Jan 13 & 15<sup>th</sup>  
Very abundant everywhere in company with *P. hiata* 73

*Curvirostra* Am. Heard them Grassing overhead, about  
June 13. ~~Sept. 4~~ ditto. 13

*Passerculus savanna*. Common all the way up from B. On the very top of the great hill above the lake found them breeding in colonies in the ~~dry~~ mowing fields of English grass: I think there must have been at least fifteen or twenty pairs in our enclosure.

*Donatrichia albicollis*, Nest 4 nearly fresh eggs June 6.



1872

Upton, MaineJune 2-14

*Junco hyemalis*. Nest with young a week old, June 3.

15 *Cyanospiza cyanea*. Took a pair about a mile S. of the Lake. A pair seen June 73

16 *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. Heard a single male in the same place every day near the Lake. Second ♂ but it is not confirmed 73

(*Sturnella magna* is said not to extend much N. of Portland; ~~and~~, although one would think the interval land up along the Androscoggin river especially suited to its habits we did not see it anywhere.)

*Scolecophagus ferrugineus*. A female taken on Cambridge River June 4 showed every evidence of having commenced incubation. 10 70

*Corvus cornix*. Was informed by Mr. Stone that he saw them at long intervals, in the autumn & winter on the upper lakes

17 *Perisoreus canadensis*. Said to be common the year round but did not see it. Mr. H. Bailey took two May 1870 near the house. The specimens were seen by Mr. Deane.

18 *Tetrao canadensis*. Said to be very common at all seasons ~~but~~ is confined almost entirely to the cedar swamps. Mr. G. Stone gave us some very interesting information in regard to the <sup>of it</sup> drumming of this species which he has often witnessed. The bird rises from the ground with strongly vibrating wings and goes straight up at an angle of 45 deg. to some low ~~branch~~ where it

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Upton, Maine.

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June 2-14

rests a minute then flies down on about the same  
incline "drumming" almost descends: the sound  
produced is much like the roll of *Bonasa umbellus*  
but is shorter, more hurried, without the prelimi-  
nary beats, and less loud although it may,  
~~still~~ heard at a considerable distance in  
still weather. ♀ with 1 egg (chick) ~~5 days~~ old June 28-73

*Batrachus lentiginosus*, Nest with five fresh eggs  
from

*Ardea herodias*, Several nests with eggs slightly  
incubated June 2.

19 *Bermula Canadensis*. Were told that lit occasionally  
in the lake during the migrations.

*Anas obscura*. Saw two large flocks on Cambridge  
meadows June 9<sup>th</sup>. Then the hunter informed us  
were the old drakes, which associate together  
in large companies after the females have  
commenced incubation.

20. *Bucephala Americana*, Breeds sparingly: a nest  
containing four eggs of this and one of *L. cucullatus*  
was found in a "stub" about fifteen feet high  
by Mr. E. Stone, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

21. *Mergus serrator* [?] Saw a pair on Cambridge  
meadows June 9. Said to breed.

*Scardafella communis* ducks & dry. June 10-73

22 " *Americanus*, Common breeding.

23. *Philohela minor*. Said to be increasing  
rapidly. Started a female and four young June 5<sup>th</sup>



June 2-14

The latter were so well grown that it was with difficulty that I could distinguish them from the parent bird as they were: how they could have been raised in so short a time was a mystery as we were told that three weeks before the lake was frozen over and snow on the ground. (See here).

Other twenty three species with those secured last season make the list up to one hundred and nine: this includes only those actually observed or secured from the statements of a number of reliable persons: with the exception of a few of the Raptors and two or three ducks it probably includes nearly all the birds breeding here. A few weeks work in early May, and in the autumn & winter, would undoubtedly add many migrants and might bring to light important discoveries.

Vireo philadelphicus for instance I am convinced would occur in comparative abundance a little earlier and rare stragglers from the S. & W. might be expected as there is undoubtedly some route from the West by which many species come without passing through Mass.

June 15. Rose at 4 and started on our stage ride down to B. with Sewell & Moody for drivers and enjoyed the drive much. Heard numbers of E. trailii, Cort. borealis & G. philadel. and I shot one of the latter: Saw also two large Barrows sitting on trees near the roadside and heard two Myiic. cinerea. Got to B. by 11 and into Boston by 8 P. M. Had our birds & packed in one of the trunks and found them in rather a flattened condition when we got home.

1872

June 17.

June 17 Had our Pigeon shoot at Concord  
176 wild birds and fourteen shooters. Henry H.  
Charles C. Barth. D. and myself went up with  
the birds on the early train. The shoot was  
on the old winter field and commenced at  
11. M. soon as follows.

Pigeon Shoot, June 17

Concord Mass. wild birds "Ground" trap

21 yds. rise 80 yds. body, first barrel only to count.

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	Total
E. Simmons	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	7.
H. Purce	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	5.
B. O. Morn	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	7.
E. M. Carter	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	7.
G. Mackey	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	5.
Aldrich	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.
Richardson	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	6.
J. E. Melvin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	10.
G. Messer	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	7.
Bush	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3.
R. Dean	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	6.
E. Nealey	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	5.
E. Lombard	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	9.
W. Brewster	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	9.

W. Buttrick of Concord came in at the 8<sup>th</sup> shot  
and finished Mr. Lombards score from that point.  
I used my Tork's b. dr. and was much pleased  
with its execution. I had especially good luck  
in the field bagging both there and at the  
trap 2 birds.

June 19 Went up to Concord in the 4 P.M. train  
with Dan and spent the evening with him on



1872

June 19

the river. Went up as far as Fairhaven where we floated around for some time and returned getting in at 12. The moon was at its full the night clear and still and everything calm and beautiful. Whip poor will was singing everywhere and we chased him a long distance through the woods but without success for although we could get nearly under him it was impossible to see him in the deceptive light. Both this bird & C. propinqua were heard up to midnight. Of diurnal species we heard singing S. amrocapillus, M. palustris, M. melodia and Emp. sumichrasti. Botaurus lentig. does not appear to sing after dark, although we heard numbers after it had begun to grow dusky. H. vociferus sings much less in the open than I supposed: all that we heard was in the woods, apparently high up in the trees. The frogs were in full blast and kept up a great noise: we heard three species Rana pipiens, a smaller one, and H. versicolor. Hyla quakerensis has been silent for several weeks.

June 29 Took the 2.10 train on the Prov. R.R. out to Needham to attend a pigeon shoot there. Found Mr. Henry Pice at the depot introduced myself and we had quite a pleasant talk on the way out. The shoot was in the park and we suffered much from the heat which was almost overpowering. I and my friends b. b. and killed three out of four birds in the field.

1872

July 3-13

Pigeon Shoot June 29<sup>th</sup>

Bridgville Mass. tame birds, h ft traps, 21 yds in, 80 yds. bdy. 1<sup>st</sup> bar. only to count.

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	Total
W. Brewster	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	6
H. Pierce	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	6
G. Swinder	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Wales	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	9
Train	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Merriman	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	6
Chaves	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Sanborn	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4

July 3 Started off in the afternoon taking Dart. Irid on the hill back of Marsh's and staying about half an hour, put up two Cock and killed both the first in and the first shot: one was an adlt. the other a young bird and good plumage and very large. Shot also a *Pipilo* in ~~nesting~~ plumage.

July Took out ~~shot~~ for the first time & as I expected could do nothing with him. He was so exceedingly timid that he could not be induced to go more than a few yds from me & indeed most of the time kept in at heel. I walked up a Woodcock, and I thought killed him but could not find him! also fell in with a brood of young grouse two thirds grown and Henry H. who was with me find it out. I shot a King bird which I shot retrieved very well.

July 13. Drove up to the Warren saw this afternoon, alone, taking Dart & shot: they worked remarkably



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1872

Rye Beach, New Hampshire.July

will together and the flock gained much in courage. Put up three Cocks and a brood of Grouse and fired twice at the former without effect. Shot showed the first signs of pointing, making quite a "draw" on the spot where a bird went up.

July 16 Came out of the city at 1 and drove up to the Warren farm with Charlie Carter. We did not wait over fifteen minutes when a heavy shower struck us and we had to return, drenched to the skin. In that time however we covered all the ground where I left three birds Sat. night and I think they must have either moved their ground or been killed off.

Henry Henshaw started this morning for Salt Lake City.

July 19 Started from Cambridge at 8 this morning. Drove down to Rye. The day was cool and pleasant with a N. wind. Reached Andover by 12, put up my horse at the Elm farm stable & took dinner with my aunt. Started again by 4 and got into Amisbury about 7.30.

Prog. soon I heard abundantly all the way out to Stoughton where it stopped. Outing Vis. I did not detect anywhere, although the country all the way to Andover seems well adapted to it. At Reading saw a ♂ I. colubris following the ♀ with amatory gestures, keeping up a shrill and somewhat sybaritic chirp entirely different from the ordinary chirrup or any note

1872

Rye Beach, N. H.

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July 19-22

that I ever heard from the species before, and at Andover, I saw another pair apparently meeting the male going through the plunging performance, described on page 71: it is possible that this bird breeds twice in the season. A little beyond Reading, I was much surprised at seeing a flock of Curvirostra Am. 8 in number and apparently all males: they flew nearly over my head, uttering a few call notes.

July 20 Left Amosbury at 9 and arrived at Madbury by 12 M. Nothing of note occurred on the way except the falling down of my horse in Amosbury Mills: no damage was however done. In the afternoon took a walk back of the house and passed across two pairs of Cort. bocalis which had a nest in one of two spruce trees and made a great fuss at my approach: a bat bird that sings in the neighborhood mimics the "phew" of the ♂ so perfectly that I was for a long time deceived. Father & mother arrived this evening.

" 21 Clear and rather warm. I spent most of the day about the house: in the afternoon took a short ride with father. A few small flocks of Ac. virens and a single A. maculata passed through the marsh.

" 22 Rained hard all day: wind E. to S.E. Peeps flew in good numbers (probably all A. virens) in the afternoon: have seen no large birds yet but was informed by Mr. Thomas Philbrick that he saw several large flocks of M. griseus the 20<sup>th</sup> (saw them later in P.M.)  
and a Wilson's Gull on the marsh.



1872

Rye Beach, N. H.July 23-24

July 23 Clear and cool with W. wind. In forenoon saw a large flock of Peeps and the first *Gambetta melanoleuca*. Last night I heard the first *Dol. nigripennis* migrating. In the afternoon rowed a skiff which I had hired of D. Philbrick around into the bel pond and put up my shooting stand: was much surprised at seeing a large Striped Snake (*Coleman vertalis*) that I had struck in the head and partially skinned, glide tail foremost evenly and smoothly for several yards: this would destroy many theories concerning the agency of the scales in locomotion.

" 24. Cloudy & misty in morning: cleared up about noon: wind E. all day. In afternoon took a stroll over back of the house and shot four *C. brevis* (3 nestlings) two Tyrann. Car. nestlings, and a *Colaptes auratus* nest. Two of the young *C. brevis* although scarcely well on ~~the~~ wing, and with tails not fully grown out, enunciated the "gh. phibea" nearly as loudly and distinctly as the adult: still more singular was it that both these specimens proved on dissection unmistakably females: this must therefore be ~~only~~ a note and not the song as I have formerly supposed: they uttered also the "fill fill fill" though not so frequently as the other note: if the male has any more song peculiar to his sex, I have yet to hear it. I also found a nest of *Ch. tristes*, in accessible burrow: the female while sitting kept up a continual sort of plaint, which I have heard from the bird before, while on or near the nest. In the afternoon two small flocks of *G. flavigula* passed over the marsh.

# Combat between musk rat & mink

1872

Rye Beach, N. H.

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July 25, 26

July 25 Clear and pleasant with W. wind: saw only one *G. flavus* during the day. In the afternoon started off into the woods with Dart and had the luck to strike a covey of young brown nearly grown with which I had excellent sport killing five in seven shots, the first three including the old hen consecutively: old Dart behaved splendidly making five good points. Shot also a mousting of *Y. pallasi* in singularly speckled attire, and returned to the house after one of the pleasantest afternoons sport that I ever experienced.

" 26 Cloudy and rained hard nearly all day: wind strong S. E. About 2 P. M. a heavy flight of birds commenced which lasted till dark. *M. griseus* flew in flocks of eight or ten, the interval between advent of each flock averaging about ten minutes: sometimes single birds came through in company with the Teeps, which flew in large flocks. *Ag. semipalmatus* in companies of eight or ten almost invariably accompanied by the Teeps and occasionally by one or two *A. melanotos*, were constantly passing over, &c. The Snipe come through the marsh against the wind flying low down with extended front, and very rapidly. Although a single *S. interpres* was also seen and only one *G. flavus*. Although I had no decoys out I bagged 26 Snipe & a Yellow lg.

While watching a Musk rat that was swimming ~~near~~ near the bank in the creek I was much surprised to see a large mink come bounding along the waters edge and stopping only to gather himself for a spring, he hit directly on the poor rats back and fastened himself to his throat: a furious



July 26-30

struggle ensued for several moments the combatants rising and disappearing beneath the surface and lashing the water into foam: finally the mink reappeared towing the body of this victim and with much difficulty dragging it out of the water he disappeared with it in a thorn wall a short distance off. All the snipe were adth. birds.

July 27 Clear and pleasant with wind W. A few flocks of *M. griseus* flew at daylight and last night about midnight I was awakened by the whistling notes of an immense flight that passed out of the marsh over the house. Did not shoot at all today. C. M. Carter came down in the 4.20 train and I drove over to meet him.

" 28 Sunday. No birds flew to day

" 29 Robert left by the 6.30 train this morning: Rose at 4 and went out in David Philbrick's boat with Mr. Huntton, Mr. Marston and George Deane: lay off about two miles from shore till 10 A. M. and caught about 125 lbs. of haddock, hake & a few cod. Saw several *Upatrels* (prob. *G. Wilsoni*) a number of *Larus argentatus* and a single *Ardea obscura* the first. In the afternoon the wind changed from S. E. to W. with frequent thunder showers, and a few *G. flammar* passed through. Saw also a pair of *Ag. vociferans*, a saw birds in the immigration line.

" 30 Clear and pleasant: no flight in the marsh. In the afternoon went into the woods and struck another covey of *Geomys* but shot only one

1872July 30 - Aug. 5

as they were too small, saw Hed. ruficapilla, Cort. virens, and H. patrapa. Turdus pallasi is still in full song.

" 31 Cloudy in P. M. Still roosting flying. In the morning saw a snow white albinos swallow on the marsh but before I could get down there it had gone.

Aug. 1 Clear and pleasant: no birds.

" 2 Clear with S. E. wind in P. M. About 2 P. M. five or six flocks of G. flavipes & M. griseus started and I killed a single bird of each. Charlie Carter came this evening. He spent his vacation here.

" 3 S. E. storm all day with driving fog & rain. At 9 A. M. a flight of Red. breast. Snipe started. but before we could get down they stopped and we did not fire a shot. Saw the first Ac. Bartramius. Met Messrs. Tucker & Garland on the marsh.

" 4 Clear with S. E. wind. No flight.

" 5 Clear with S. E. wind, Spent the day in the woods starting at 9 and getting back at 4 P. M. Tramped about 10 miles and spent up. ~~Two~~ groups one of which a young bird I killed. I also shot a "quack" at about 80 yds. flying, making his wing. Turdus pallasi has three different notes besides the song; a chuck, a sort of mewing complaining cry, and a guttural aspirated, almost whistling, and rather ventriloquial note common also to G. migratorius, Am. cedrorum, Car. purpureus & T. fuscescens.



The woods here are nearly all evergreen and very beautiful, with a great variety of ferns & mosses, but small birds are scarce.

Aug. 6 Clear and very warm with S.E. wind. In P.M. three flocks of Nunus Hudsonicus passed along over the sea & at sunset two large flocks of both spec. of Gambetta flew through the marsh. About 10 P.M. heard a Sc. Bastranius. Seallons of all species have been migrating steadily for the last weeks: have not however seen Pogon rubis yet. An adult specimen of Gallinago Wilsoni was shot on the marsh.

" 7 Clear and very warm with light S.E. wind. A heavy flight of G. flavipes started in the afternoon and continued till dark: we missed them however by going back into the country after Woodcock. An old hunter on the distant road directed us to a white gimm run where we found two birds on very wet ground and shot each one: we also struck a brood of six or seven poorly grown grouse and Charlie bagged one. I did not fire at them at all. Heard a 'o Cis. Mellan's singing. Returning to the house at about 6 we found Dan. C. French who came down in the 2.40 train.

" 8 Very warm with light S. wind. A heavy flight of ~~G. flavipes~~ large birds commenced at daylight, stopped at about 9 A.M. commenced again at 2 P.M. and lasted till dark. We did not go down till after dinner when we took

the deep and improved a stand. The flight was quite heavy and I think the most regular I ever saw. D. C. French, E. M. Carter & myself shot together and by dark we had bagged fifty large birds. G. flavipes were most abundant, A. maculata next & more so than I ever saw them before, and of M. griseus there only were seen. No flocks of either species were seen containing over twenty individuals.

" 9 Clear and one of the warmest days of the season; therm. at Pez 90° at Boston 100°. A steady flight commenced at daylight and lasted all day slackening considerably however in the afternoon. We were down on the marsh by 5 and stayed till dinner, eating breakfast in the stand. In the afternoon although it was intensely warm Charlie & I tried it again and stayed till supper and by eight our bag counted up sixty seven large birds, a total of one hundred & twenty seven for the two days. G. flavipes were most numerous, A. maculata next and a few Mae. griseus were shot. They are now all immature birds. Saw a few G. maculosa, a single Nem. hudsonius & the first Progne subis also a flock of 4 Anas obscura yesterday & two this morning.

Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Clear with strong S. wind. No flight at all in the P.M. went out Cannier fishing & caught abt. 20

Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Foggy with light S.E. wind. Heavy thunder shower in P.M. About the heaviest flight seen so far passed through today, principally "yellow legs" with a good sprinkling of Red Breasted Snipe & a few Kill-deers.



August 1872.Mon. 12<sup>th</sup>

Cloudy + wind N.E. Little foggy. ~~only at~~ <sup>saw</sup>  
Went down on the Marsh at 6 A.M. but ~~shot~~ only a  
few scattering birds of which I got 4. Shot the  
first *A. Bonapartei* of the season. Shot also a  
*S. Hirundo*, one of three that came through the  
marsh. In the P.M. there was a heavy flight  
of Snipe which we however missed by going  
back into the woods. We put up at 20 Partridges of  
which I bagged three + a Woodcock.

Charley + Sam each shot a "Sharp-thinned Hawk,"  
both birds of the year. Their note was a shrill  
querulous whistling cry repeated 3 or 4 times in  
quick succession. "Dart" made some very  
fine points on scattered partridges. He also  
had ~~some~~ some ferrotypes taken in our shooting <sup>this morning</sup>  
costume with the dog included. <sup>through the window</sup> *Nemor. longirostris* named

Tues. 13<sup>th</sup>

Cloudy + misty, wind E. Only a few scattering  
birds during the day. Shot the 1<sup>st</sup> "*Sympneia Semie-*  
*palmata*" a bird of the year. Also 4 or 5 Yellowlegs  
+ snipe. In the P.M. started for a tramp back into  
the woods, but were interrupted by a Thunder shower  
+ turned back without starting anything.

Wedns. 14<sup>th</sup>

Cloudy + foggy. Thunder shower in P.M. Wind E.  
A few straggling flocks of large birds in the  
morning. In the afternoon quite a heavy flight  
of "Peeps". Saw a single *S. Helvetica*. The 1<sup>st</sup>  
was observed some 3 or 4 days since but I have  
forgotten the date. Night herons "great blue"  
have been migrating for the last 2 weeks; the  
latter we frequently see flying over the sea in  
small companies. Dr. French left this AM in the  
11.47 train. In the P.M. set out my duck decoys  
+ bought a live duck.

1872.

Rye Beach, N. H.

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Aug. 15, 1872

Thurs. 15

Morning cloudy & misty: cleared up at noon, afternoon with strong S. E. wind, and a thunder storm about 7. From at 5 went down on the marsh & set out our live decoy, but saw only two or three straggling yellow legs & then Sterna hiemalis two of which I shot & found adult birds. At about 2 P. M. a good flight began & lasted till the storm. G. C. C. C. & I shot together & bagged 26 birds. I made them double shots and we secured two whole flocks or six the other five.

G. flavipes were most numerous with occasional flocks of Ac. maculata, a M. griseus, a few B. melanotos, a single Nam. ludovicianus, and a flock of 13 Anas douglas. I also shot the first Thalassidroma <sup>Wilsoni</sup> ~~Wilsoni~~ as that I ever saw alive: it came over the decoys in a large flock of "peeps," flew very swiftly & like a sandpiper and uttered a sharp harsh cry somewhat like the "scarp" of Gal. Wilsoni. G. flavipes is the only "marsh bird" that dives, except Min. maculosa: it ~~screeches~~ screams loudly when wounded & caught. Saw a flock of Ac. Bonapartei comprising as many as seven or eight individuals.

Fri. 16

m

Cloudy & foggy with thunder storm in P. M. From at 5 and went down on the marsh with Charlie but a single flock of G. flavipes from which we killed four, but as we were coming out of the marsh a flock of 4 Anas obscura passed through & hovered over the decoys we had



1872.

Aug. 17-25

just left. About 2 P.M. several small flocks of *G. flavipes* flew.

Sat. 17 Rained hard all the forenoon; clear and warm in P.M. No flight at all & the only two birds I saw all day were a *Num. longirostris* & a *N. Hird.* flying together. The water ran so high to day as to cover all the marsh.

Sun. 18 Clear & warm. Wind S.E. Did not see a single bird all day.

Mon. 19 Clear and warm. Wind S.W. At sunrise I found a flock of *G. flavipes* on the marsh; killed four and in the afternoon two or three stragglers were seen but no flight. In the morning there was the very heavy flight of *Ac. Bastranius* & I saw one flock of as many as 15. In the evening went down on the pond and shot a Night heron. The migration of *Act. sibiricus* is about at its height.

Tuesday 20 During the past week the weather has been for the most part fair but there has been virtually no flight at all of marsh birds. On 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> there were Black ducks in the pond & I shot one on the former date. My eyes have troubled me more than ever before & I shall leave Rye to-morrow. Friday Aug. 23 I

1873July 17

drow back a mile or two & tried for Woodcock: got up one & fired at him five times without effect: shot a full grown partridge. B. Deane came last night to pass Sunday.

1873.July 17

July 17 Was obliged to give up my journal last year on account of much trouble with my eyes and the only notes up to this date will be found in my pocket diaries for 1872 & 1873. A general resume of the events since last Sept. is as follows. Spent the first three weeks of Sept. on Moon river in camp with Messrs. J. B. - C. J. & Mr. Russell of Cambridge & A. L. Foster of Boston & Guides H. & C. Adams: Had fair duck shooting & good fishing but skinned only some five or six birds. In Oct. spent four & in Nov. three days on "the Cape" quail shooting, with J. C. Melvin & had fair sport. Shot nearly every day through the autumn around C. & had fair shooting. The total bag for the year 1872 was

Woodcock	. Duck
Quail	. Bay snipe
Snipe (Eng.)	.
Grouse (Eng.)	.

During most of the winter was confined to the house my eyes being too weak to permit my going out when the sun was shining on the snow. On the night



1873July 18, 1873 - Upton, Maine.

of Mch. 2<sup>nd</sup> I started for Washington where I arrived Mch. 3 & remained 8 days, returning by way of Phil. & New York, in each of which places I stopped three or four days & called on most of the prominent ornithologists. On the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> of Mch. I received the cruelly fall from which I am still suffering and confined to my room for 8 weeks did little in the collecting line during the rest of the spring except a few birds which I shot along the woods from my buggy. June 12<sup>th</sup> started for Upton Me with H. A. Purdie, where we arrived the afternoon of the 13 & spent a most pleasant 2 weeks. I collected principally from a boat 50 birds, some of them good, and the nest eggs of *T. swainsoni* & *E. traillii*.

This morning (July 17) started again for Upton taking my sister, Sister & 8 guns & arrived at Bethel at 5 P.M. On the train made the acquaintance of Mr. H. Hutton of Havana, Cuba, and had a long talk with him on shooting. At Bethel found an old schoolmate Henry Reed & passed most of the evening talking over old times.

July 18 X Left B. at 12 dinner at P. Place & reached the lake at 6.30 P.M. At Bethel heard *Spiz. pusilla*. In the evening a party of 4 Boston boys arrived, all gentlemen & good fellows. ~~They~~ of them Magee by name. They start to morrow morning for Pamachany Lake, from which place a party of two N. York boys just "come out", one of them a Mr. Carter.

1873

July 19-21.

July 1873

99

Upton, Maine

They had in different sport.

July 19 Cloudy & rained nearly all day. In P.M.  
 much to my surprise saw a large  
 flock of ~~Arg. amplicollis~~ Arg. amplicollis (Spotted)  
 accompanied by five Arg. amplicollis  
 Caught 2 trout

July 20 Sunday. Clear cool & windy. I spent the  
 day around the house: took a short  
 paddle down river & saw 3 Exocoetes  
petrificatus (got near enough to be sure) a  
Phy. solitarius which lighted on the top  
 of a stub 15 ft. high, and three Gambusia  
flavipes. In the evening C. propetua  
 were very thick flying around the house  
 and lighting in the garden as in 1871.  
 Two Mr. Fletchers "came out" to day from  
 Tyler Cove with about 50 lbs of trout.

" 21 Clear & windy. I spent most of A.M. in  
 fitting up my boat: also took a turn  
 behind the house with shot, & killed a  
 cock which he pined handsomely  
 & retrieved well. After dinner went down  
 river & shot two yellow legs, both flying, &  
 a crow blackbird. Saw a Pringamaculata  
 & watched an Osprey as he pined himself  
 motionless & extended wing for many seconds  
 at a time & then dived into the water  
 beneath. The young of most of the birds  
 are all out & on wing. The thrushes & sparrows  
 still sing morning & evening but few of  
 other species can be heard. The cock that  
 was a young bird but full size & well feathered.



Upton, Maine.

1873

July

July 22

Clear & lovely day. Woke up with a severe attack of colic & remained in the house all day feeling a little better in the P.M. & went in the evening. J. Savain an old schoolmate arrived this evening. But I was too sick to enjoy his company long, retiring about 7 P.M.

" 23

Pained last night in most excruciating pain and did not sleep over 15 min. altogether. Sent down by Clark for a doctor from Bethel this morning. Dr. Perkins through the day. & was unable to keep even medicine down for an instant. By evening the colic pain had nearly gone out & I was much easier and the Bethel doctor came over for Mrs. Scott who ~~came~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~here~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~house~~ <sup>house</sup>.

and a dose of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~Gammon~~ <sup>Gammon</sup>. Felt a very fresh sight with new pains in the back and side.

" 24

Woke this morning feeling better. Stomach weak. Feels rather relaxed. Mr. G. is very kind and sat up all night with me. He says the white throats were beautiful. In the night I heard a harsh note made by some bird unknown to me. I had supposed it to be two of them and ~~that~~ the sound very near my window. I do not hear the night hawks at all except at dusk in the evening & again in the first twilight of morning; if they are abroad here in the hours of darkness they are at least silent. My doctor has not appeared. I sent a telegram home this morning. His coming ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup> ~~likely~~ <sup>likely</sup> ~~but~~ <sup>but</sup> ~~indifferent~~ <sup>indifferent</sup>.

1873

1873

July

July 25-28

his delay I refused to either see or  
pay him.

July 25

Clear & warm. Passed a rather interesting  
afternoon in house or two of sheep & cattle  
this morning with the few newly arrived.  
Father arrived this afternoon but I was  
too weak to say more than a few words  
to him.

26

Clear and a very warm day. Out of  
and down or two for the first time.  
In P.M. saw a large party of swans  
brood of young *H. tyrannus*, accompanied  
by the old male, and an old *H. tyrannus*.  
In a field near the marshes and  
J. Swain left this morning.

27

Cloudy & rain. A very warm  
day. The day about the house with  
father coming down in my room  
looking quite well. The *H. tyrannus* & *H. tyrannus*  
are both very abundant and noisy  
about the house, and are evidently  
breeding. The *H. tyrannus* sing very  
much like *C. tristis*, in a warbling  
continued strain but not nearly  
so much. Parula birds are in the garden  
around the house.

28

Clear, cool & a lovely day. Father left  
this afternoon leaving me alone and  
I passed a most dull evening, feeling  
exceedingly homesick, but as soon as  
I came out in morning the birds again shall  
fill both.



July 29-31

Thursday

July 29

Upton, Maine.

1873

July.

Cloudy & rained nearly all day. Spent most of the day in the house & find myself now gaining fast. "Charles" Barston came down on the boat this evening, having been up to Parmachenee L. with Mage & friends; he seems to be a gentleman & a good fellow.

" 30

Clear & a lovely day. In the morning went out behind the barn & watched the birds for an hour or two & found a nest of Ch. tristes by the ~~entrance~~ of the sitting ♀, but was unable to reach it. The bullies are I think preparing to leave. I notice that H. lunifrons flies much higher as a rule than the others & is harder to take on that account; have seen no H. bicolor for several days. In the P.M. went down river with Barston & I shot a kingfisher, my first bird, with my rifle at about 80 yds; we saw about a dozen of these birds altogether.

" 31

Clear but warm. After breakfast went out behind the barn and shot a D. coronata & L. maculosa nest & a H. lunifrons. In P.M. went down river and on the way back had the good luck to secure two Peirids archiens, an adth. & nestling, both ♂. Took also a S. rufus nest & a Sp. varius do. Saw a large flock of Ag. semipal & G. flavipes & these birds are evidently of not infrequent occurrence here. Heard several Cont. borealis. I am now quite strong again.

1873

Aug 1-2

1873- August

Aug. 1

Cloudy & rained hard all day. Brewster went up to Megalloway in the boat this morning. I spent all the forenoon on the bird nest yesterday & mounted the *H. leucifrons*.

In the P.M. Mr. Godwin returned from a trip up the lake bringing me a snow white swallow, an albino I think of *H. bicolor*: unfortunately as it was shot last Monday it was too far gone to skin so I carbonized it. After supper while sitting on the piazza a Canada jay flew by & lit for a moment in a small birch tree; it is the first I have seen here & Mr. G. informs me that it is seldom observed in the summer. A large party came down from Taylor's cove bringing five *Mergusians*, that they had shot: all were young birds about  $\frac{1}{2}$  grown.

" 2

Started in the boat this morning at 7.30 & made the round trip getting home at 9.30 P.M. Had a most lovely day, clear & still. The first stretch up the lake to the inlet is very beautiful, the scenery fine & the mountain outlines bold. At the inlet saw Sanborn & party & took on board Messrs. Poland & Buffum. We then entered the mouth of the Androscoggin & ran down to Enos seeing many ducks of which I shot one a *B. cucullatus* & as it was ahead of the boat: here we saw also a ♀ *Lin. speciosus*.



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Aug. 2

carpenter of *S. flavipes* & minimum numbers of *Phy. volitans*; so thick indeed even these latter birds that frequently a dozen would start at once from the shore.

X The kingfishers were also in numbers & we must have passed hundreds to every mile. Stopping at Errol a few minutes we took on board Mr. Monksman & started up the Megalloway. This river is one of the most beautiful I have ever seen, the scenery wild & perfectly typical of N. Ducks were rather scarce but we started a flock of about a dozen *Nyct. gardenii* from the spruces on the bank & *Tring. macularius* continued about all the way up.

At the landing found Mr. Spencer with a team & we were carried up to his house 2 miles distant where we took dinner.

The view from his place is very fine Mt. Austin in front & Mt. Agassiz in the rear. The settlement comprises about 30 inhabitants. Saw large numbers of *Coc. erythrop.* along the road & Mr. S. informs me that the Woodcock has lately appeared there & is getting abundant.

Saw also near the road two small birds apparently entirely black sitting on dead stumps. Coming down river I shot 2 more *Od. enucleatus* both cross shots flying & knocked over a kingfisher with the rifle at about 50 yds. As we came out into the lake the sun was just setting & I have barely seen a more magnificent combination

1873.  
Aug. 3-6.

Aug. 1873

of pink ~~colored~~ clouds, purple haze  
& dark strongly outlined mountains than  
we enjoyed & for half an hour or more.  
Near the river did some very close shooting  
at loons & reached the lake home thoroughly  
tired but fully repaid for time & expense.

Aug. 3 Clear in A.M. Rained all P.M. Took a  
scot down river in the forenoon, & saw  
then Pigeon holes among the trees. In  
P.M. tramped around the house.

" 4 Clear cool & a lovely day. After breakfast  
started down river & beat out against the  
wind as far as Stony point returning  
in pretty quick time. Saw three  
X Chori Bonapartei & two Larus argentatus.  
A large flock of Pigeon holes has appeared  
on the river & I took two immatures &  
also a nest of S. vialis. Had another slight  
attack of colic this P.M. Mr. Brown & party arrived.

" 5 Clear cool & a lovely day. Felt very  
weak & dizzy & sat about the house all  
day. Mr. L. F. Brown & party started  
for Megalloway this morning & in the  
even. a large party from Coldbrook arrived.  
Mr. Monks also came down on the  
boat with a string of 250 small trout  
caught in Sturdevant cove.

" 6 Cloudy & cold. Felt much better this  
morning. After breakfast set down back  
of the house & took a D. tigrina & adult in  
interesting changing plumage, with S. vialis



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August

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August 1873

and much to my surprise a full grown full feathered nest of Ch. pinus in a most interesting yellowish plumage: this of course destroys the hypothesis of their breeding late like Ch. tristis, although this may be an exceptionally early bird, as an adult male taken at the same time, showed no distinctive tests excepted to the fullest breeding size, & was in full song. They resort in large numbers to the birch trees in front of the house, to feed on the seeds of the cones. In habits song & flight at this season they bear a wonderful resemblance to Ch. tristis.

Aug. 7 Cloudy all day & cold. In A.M. went out back of the barn put up a large cock & find a charge of dust shot at him without effect. In P.M. paddled down river a short distance & going ashore took five birds including a y.y. De castanea; also shot a nest of Ch. pinus at the house on my return. Mrs. Shattuck Greenwood, & left on the boat this morning to go into camp at Sturdwant brook.

" 8 Clear cool & pleasant. After breakfast shot three nests of J. hyemalis & an adult of Ch. pinus that had plainly long since got over the care of incubation, as the bare space on the nest was nearly grown over with feathers. Mr. Brown & party "came out" from Megalloway to day. In P.M. took a sail down river & shot a pair of young Scot. peregrinus. Mrs. Lynch & Crocker arrived this evening.

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August.

Aug. 9

Upton, Maine.

Clear cool & a fine day. After breakfast went out back of the barn and took eight birds the best two young *H. castanea* on a nest. in a curious spotted plumage. The generative organs of a ♂ *Ch. pinus* shot this morning exhibit a state of the highest development & yet full grown young are not uncommon. Saw a single *Curv. am.* the first since my arrival. At noon Mr. Winslow arrived with a brace of handsome setters: he seemed a very nice fellow. After dinner I took my rifle & made five successful shots in succession at an average of 50 yds. killing 3 kingfisher, a cedar bird & a frog, the best shooting I have ever done. Mr. Goddard also shot a kingfisher with it at about 70 yds.

Sunday  
Aug. 10

Clear warm & pleasant. Lounched around the barn in the morning: in P.M. took a sail down to the mouth of the river with Smith.

" 11

Clear, rather hot & fine day. After breakfast went out behind the barn & shot a *P. tigrina* y.y. a *Parus hudsonicus* y.y (flying) & two *Sp. vesper* nest. *Stelaha pater* is getting quite common here. An indication that the migrations are commencing as it is seen in the breeding season. The note of *P. hudsonicus* is not to be mistaken for that of *P. atricap.* it is shorter (I have heard only one note besides the hissing chirp common to all of the



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AugustAug. 1873Upton, Maine.

quins) and fubler, ktn. chee, shee. shee (this note corresponds to the chick-a-dee-dee-dee of *P. atr.* *Sp. varius* is a very remarkable bird in its actions: it is then almost to stupidity, or perhaps rather, like the woodcock & quail, it depends on concealment instead of flight for safety as it will allow one frequently to approach within a few feet & when found it & mind, will flatten itself against the bark & remain perfectly motionless. In P.M. went down river & took a brood of four very young mott. *D. caulescens*: both old birds were in utter dunes & the whole family moved rapidly along through the woods, flying from tree to tree, the young truttering loudly: one chirp or rather cluck of the adult is precisely like that of *Junco hyemalis*. Took also a *P. savana* in mott. plum. & a do *Prog. hyemalis*. Mr. Monheimer with a party of divers arrived at 6.

Aug. 12

Clear & rather warm. After breakfast had a horse saddled, rode out to the shuff and started up C. river with Mr. Brown. The morning was lovely and birds seemed to absolutely swarm. *Parus hied.* & *M. pumila* here about. the latter in large companies with other warblers flitting about in the bushes overhanging the water. A short distance up river a *Botas pennsylv.* (adult) tried to pass us & I shot it: further on a Night heron & a Wood duck rose together as

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August 12

... wounded a bird; I shot in vain with the first & the latter with the second barrel. About 2 miles up we were on a road leading acrossing along the mud on the margin of the river & on going where we were the place much to our surprise found the mud both on the bank & in the alders all bound up by these birds. On the way down I shot a young whistler & made a bad "muff" on a pair of black ducks the first barrel missing for the second only wounding. After getting back went out to the spring behind the barn & shot a cock, at the second shot missing both barrels the first. Shot a kingfisher with my rifle at fully 130 yds.

Aug. 13

Clear & pleasant. Lunched around the house all day with Bartow who came down from Malloway last night. In P.M. shot a kingfisher with my rifle at about 100 yds. Mr. Smith brought in a pair of young Tetrao Can in an interesting plumage & Mr. Godwin an He. fusca, which they gave me. The Clay's He. dissected I found to contain fir needles, raspberries, blueberries, chickens & fir buds.

" 14

Cloudy & cool. East wind. After breakfast rode over to the landing & went up C. river with Bartow. He shot a young wood duck (leppus) & 8 small birds the first 2 were Ch. purpurea, do. Regulus set, the crown plain & a D. pennsylvanica 2nd plum & a D. castaneus do.



1873

Aug. 1873

Upton, Maine.

August 14

Saw woodcock borings "all safe" along the river & they must be quite plenty then. *Pinus kerdensis* was quite abundant & very noisy. The birds were for the most part in numerous flocks or companies of several hundreds, warblers, sparrows, creepers, woodpeckers &c. all keeping along through the woods chirping, chattering, & occasionally a young male practicing up on his first season's song.

Aug. 15

Cloudy & windy at intervals. In A. M. went down river with Perkins & shot some times at Kingfishers with my rifle but did not kill a bird though I brought one down to the net. In P. M. skinned the birds shot yesterday.

16

A. M. rainy. P. M. clear. Took the Steamboat for Megalloway this morning & arrived there at 2. On the way shot a *Buteo pennsylvanicus* in im. plum. & a "whistler", both flying. In the evening went up to the mouth of the Diamond & took trout, one  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. Saw a *Pod. podiceps* at Encl.

X  
Sunday

" 17

Clear & a most lovely day. In P. M. drove up to the mouth of Diamond then fished 3 hours & took 5 small trout. Fired both barrels at a black duck & hit him very hard. Saw a *Guiraca ludovic*, in im. plum. & heard for the first time a note which it uttered while flying & which resembled the fall note of the

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Aug. 17

blue bird. Red. wigwags is flying about constantly in large flocks

Aug. 18

Cloudy & warm. In forenoon paddled & sailed up to the mouth of the Diamond & took 2 trout, all small. Shot two mott. Ch. juncos & a do. *S. juncohyemalis*. In P.M. Mr. Spencer drove me up to the dam in "the Diamond" when he took six good trout but I did not get a run.

" 19

Cloudy & threatening rain. After breakfast rode over to Sturdivant pond, a beautiful little sheet of water. At noon started down river from the Steamboat landing in my boat, shooting a young whistler by the way, & stopping to fish a while at Botth Brook when I caught a half lb. trout. Heard what I took to be *Sagmin* *subulosum*: its note was like whoo, whoo whoo whoo whoo-a, given in rather a soft cooing tone. Was here taken aboard by the Steamboat & reached Upton by 8 P.M. Shooting a night hawk out on the lake & nearly dropping it into the boat. Heard a snipe (*S. wilsoni*) at the Outlet. Found Barton on the boat.

X

" 20

Clear & warm. In A.M. caught a small trout & skinned my birds. In P.M. put up a large cock in front of the house but lost him, my first barrel missing fire



Aug. 1873

Upton, Maine.1873

- Aug. 21 Cloudy & rained. Spent most of the day around the house, having another slight attack of colic.
- " 22 Cloudy & rainy. Spent the day around the house not feeling well.
- " 23 Cleared up this morning. Benton & Mr. Fullerton left for the Mid. dam this morning. After breakfast Mr. Goddard & I started up C. river & he paddled me up about 2 miles. I shot three wood ducks in two shots, all on the water, & a Sol. sandp. flying. The A. spurs are I think all adult ♂ although in nearly the plumage of the young ♂. Saw large numbers of small birds & was lucky enough to get a My. pusillus U. G. in 2<sup>nd</sup> plumage; whether this bird was raised in the vicinity or not must be of course a matter of conjecture, but I am inclined to think that it was, as I have seen no evidence as yet of any ~~Southward~~ migration ~~influx~~ of small birds from the North, although many of the birds have evidently left here. Birds have almost entirely stopped singing, even Lon. abricollis is heard but seldom, & the occasionally Paula ann. & vireos olivaceus & vireos. Chordeiles pictus still keep up their "booming" & on still nights I see them out on the lake in large flocks. Pky. vireos & Ceryle alcyon are not so abundant as they were in





Aug. 1873

1873.

Upton, Maine.Aug. 25

I went down to a considerable depth but managed to rise again and swim ashore with my heavy gun. Among my best birds got two more Big. satrapa in immat. plum. a Parus hudsonicus & two H. purpurea. I also shot an immature D. striata which occurrence, shows that the migrations have already commenced.

D. tigrina is I think all gone as I was unable to detect any among the multitudes of warblers; it is I think the only one yet missing in that family. Parus hudson. I am nearly sure has the ti-derry whistle of P. atricap. the che-dee-dee both in a slightly altered tone. Sphy. varius is getting scarce & have seen only one for a week or more. In P. M. skinned my birds.

Aug. 26

Clear cool & pleasant. Started up Canbr. river after breakfast - taking my br. loader & shot six birds, the best a ♀ D. tigrina y.y. & ♂ D. pennsylvan. y.y. Saw a y.y. Myiostitta carca but was too near to shoot, & in backing out, lost it. Made a very good snap shot at a Black duck as it was disappearing round a bend & killed it. Quiraca ludoviciana is getting numerous. They fly about in small companies, from tree to tree, uttering the fall note before referred to. I also hear them frequently at night. Barston came down from the dam this morn. he had good fishing & took trout up to 2½ lb.

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1873.

Upton, Maine.

Aug. 27

Clear cool & a most lovely day. About 10 started up the lake on the steamer with Barston & were left at Bear brook pond when the boat summing up to Megalloway to take up H. Winslow & party. I shot a mink then started down river & sailed to the mouth. Struck into a pond hole near the outlet when we saw numbers of ducks & I shot two hooded mergansers both flying & a winter yellow leg. Barston shot two mergansers & a summer yellow leg. While in this pond the steamer ran down by and ~~there~~ we were left, fully 12 miles from home but had to make the best of it, so taking it coolly we sailed about 2 miles before dark & rowed the rest of the way getting back to the lake horn by 10:30 P.M. Heard a number of loons & one owl on the way down & saw large numbers of ducks coming up from the narrows. The melancholy quavering cry of the loons we heard at intervals up to 10 o'clock and the faint hiss of the migrating warblers & sparrows was almost incessant in the darkness overhead; at one time a *Tyrannus cer.* came flying about us, invisible of course but keeping up its querulous cries.

28

Clear & a perfect day. I spent the forenoon about the horn and shot a few young Ch. tristes & a y. y. *D. tigrina* & in the afternoon the boat landed. After dinner started down river and Barston went ashore and beat pond holes for snipe, shooting one and a black duck. We saw a flock of 4 *Phalaropus*



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X *wilsonii*! which hit a moment in the middle of the river, then passed us at a lightning speed twisting & doubling in our both find but missed. Just at sunset I shot a winter yellow leg that tried to fly by me.

Aug. 29 Clear & warm. After breakfast started up B. river with Capt. Perkins, & for the space of three or four hours enjoyed myself to the utmost as we glided silently through the forest shaded stretches of that wild & beautiful little stream. Made very successful shots, killing a wood duck two pigeons & a fish hawk without missing & on the way down was much pleased at running across a small porcupine which was drinking on the shore. Saw *Sciurus amoenus* but think I never saw one nearly if not all gone. *Emp. flaviventris* I heard repeatedly but have seen no signs of *E. traillii*. In P.M. skinned the birds shot yesterday.

Aug. 30 Clear & warm with E. wind. In forenoon Barton & I pulled down to the mouth of the river & separating he drove a number of ducks over me & I fired five shots, getting however only one bird, as several of my cartridges missed fire & put me out. On the way back B. drove out another flock of mergansers from the upper pond & I made a good double shot, dropping both birds but losing me when lifted in the high grass. I also shot a *Falco columbianus*; B. a Cottontail. In P.M. we paddled down to the mouth again & sailed from there, close hauled, on

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Upton, Maine.

Aug. 30

To the narrows when we lay for ducks until the steamer came along, without getting a shot. The swallows are all, or nearly all, gone. The marsh West of the house is now filled with a chirping, hissing throng of sparrows, *P. savanna* being largely represented. *Phy. solitarius* & *G. macularius* are daily growing less numerous & small Hawks are beginning to increase in numbers.

Sunday

Aug. 31

Cloudy; charring. Spent all the day about the house with B.

Sept. 1873

Sept. 1

Cloudy & chilly with E. wind. In A.M. went down to the mouth of the river with B. & he shot a *g. y. p. titm.* Saw a *Charadrius virginicus*. In P.M. skinned the titm. and collected some Spanish moss for packing. This morning I shot a *g. y. Sc. fuscus* flying over the bar. *Co. migratorius* are collecting into large flocks.

" 2

Showery & charring with heavy N.W. winds. Took the Steamboat with B. this morning up to the outlet. Dr. Ambler & party also on board, bound for "the retreat." The steamer stuck going over the bar at the outlet & we were delayed two hours then; finally getting across we rode to Leonard's pond where we disem-berked & B. started up. Leaving our station at the mouth. The ducks began soon to come



Sept 1873

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Sept. 2

Upton, Maine.

down & I shot four, two flying. B. shot a wood duck and came back. Hearing the whistle of the Steamboat we dragged out my skiff & I stationed myself on the river while he went back to the pond. Then I shot two more ducks, a winter yellow & a Gt. blue heron, all flying & missed another duck after snapping the first barrel at him. The Steam now came along & after another delay on the bar, we reached home by 10. P. M.

Sept. 3

Clear & fine day. Barstow left for "the retreat" this morning. After dinner went up C. river in the skiff & shot 8 birds, 2 D. castanea & Pans. hnd. and 2 D. striata: the latter are evidently increasing in numbers. Rhy. whitarius are all gone, as are the swallows which seemed to have almost simultaneously. Ch. popetum I have not seen for several days, and Chry. pinus with their young have suddenly & almost entirely disappeared. C. tristis is also I think leaving us. The ~~flowers~~ are turning yellow, the ferns are withering and everything both faunal & floral, begins to show signs of the approaching change in nature.

Sept. 4

Cloudy & rainy. wind E. In forenoon skinned the birds shot yesterday. In P. M. went down to the river and took three half-pounds.

1. 5

Clear with showers. In A. M. shot a Ch. tristis with my rifle & took two M. melodia murt. Lunched about the house in P. M. Jan C. French arrived in the evening.

Sept. 1873

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Sept. 6

Cloudy a lovely day. We took the boat up to the "Inlet" in the morning, & arrived at the "Inlet" at 2 P.M. Frodo across the carry on the old horse, with the "back board" sitting behind and was pretty well bruised up by the time I got there. In the evening went down to the river and took a 2 pound fish. Basses caught five, one a 4 pounder.

Sunday  
Sept. 7

Cloudy with E. wind. After breakfast D. & I started up the lake and rowed as far as the entrance to Molychuckumuk. Saw a *Picoides arcticus* & shot a *Sparverius* & a kingfisher, with my rifle. Got back to camp by 5 P.M. & fished a little in the sun but without success.

" 8

Rained hard last night but cleared up at sunrise. Fished at intervals during the day and steadily towards sunset but did not take a trout, and only one or two were caught by the others. The sunset in the lake this evening was very fine, the mountains to the East lighting up with a changing succession of the most beautiful colors. Saw a *Ch. pilosus* the only swallow for a week or more, & another today the last.

" 9

Clear & a fine day. Rose at 5 o'clock and went down to the river where I took two fish for breakfast, all under a storm. During the forenoon caught two more. After dinner we packed up and bidding good bye is a bit



Sept. 1873.

1873

Sept. 9.

Upton, Maine.

in the camp, started down river in  
 early, I riding Old Benney. Taking a  
 coal at 'Cider Camp', we started down  
 the river as far as the outlet where we  
 were taken aboard by the men and  
 reached the water house by 5.30. Still in  
 boats I shot a murrelet flying.  
 At Richardson Lake I noticed a  
 striking difference in the avifauna except  
 that birds & game of all kinds are  
 exceedingly scarce. Panis hudsonicus  
 very abundant. & Ch. juncos were full about,  
 and we saw numbers of Reg. solitaria,  
 which I had picked at Upton, as all  
 gone in with snow. Ducks were scarce  
 the only species seen, Myas americana & B. f.  
concolor. A D. discors was shot  
 to day near the outlet of Umbagog.

Sept. 10

Clear & a fine cool day. After breakfast  
 I started up Cass. River, taking a  
 bunch and spent the day in the  
 beautiful forest shaded depths. I  
 then took ducks in a bog of  
 in the first bog, and further up I  
 struck a flock of Reg. solitaria of  
 which I shot four (four with my rifle) &  
 the remaining one. I also shot  
 with my rifle a woodpecker,  
hairy & a red woodpecker, making  
 remarkably good shots. Saw a Reg.  
h. castanea, Reg. h. h. & Reg. h. h.  
 the latter I shot.





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Sept. 13

Went out but got no birds. Arrived at Sympson's found that we had left our valise at the Lake house, so had to give up our proposed stay of several days. The two brothers Allen & Mr. Perry went up on the boat with us. Had a Callis arenaia sent down to me by Barlow from the Richardson cabin, to day.

Sunday  
Sept. 14

Cloudy & cold with occasional wind. Started from Upton on the boat at 10.30. At the outlet saw a fine pair of Loons (H. loon) on a narrow island & the other with a little white on both head & tail. They were sitting about over the water. Many hawks, lighting occasionally on the shore. Just as the boat was about to land at Upton a flock of four Pernis discolor ran ahead & away by, offering a good shot, had we been ready. At the same time a large flock of Turdus ludovicianus passed overhead. I have never seen here. "Cisticus frontalis" partly seen this P.M. Shot up five woodcock in the "ravins" before dark.

15

Clear & cool. Went up on the boat in morning & getting into my boat at the outlet I sailed about the lake the greater part of the day, shooting a pair of Sterna hirundo near the outlet (getting only one). Late in the P.M. we saw a Swan lake & followed him about for some time until at the fourth shot I brought him down to the water's edge.

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Upton, Maine

Sept. 15

immense flock at about 2 p.m. after a most exciting chase for short distance & finished him with a charge of 100 shot! it was a very active & weighed 11 lbs. 2 oz. & although the jugular vein had been cut by the bullet, the neck more or less shattered, still was still able to swim for a long distance under water.

Sept. 16

Clear & cool. I spent the entire day around the house with Sam, as my hip is too lame to allow of much walking. In P.M. skinned & made up the lion the job occupying about 2 hours. C. F. Barton came down from the strait this evening.

17

Clear & cool. Sam left on the stage for home this morning. I spent the day in the house with B. & a Mr. M. who is stopping here & who seems to be a good fellow. In P.M. B. went down on the marsh put up four snipe & shot a *Tringa maculata*.

" 18

Clear & warm with S. wind. I spent A.M. about the house while B. went down on the marsh & started 8 snipe one of which he shot. In P.M. went up Camp Cove & shot a black duck sitting, and five small birds. Was much surprised at coming upon a rail (*P. carolina*) that was sitting crouched up, under a log on the edge of the stream. There has been quite a change

X



Sept. 1873

1873.

Sept. 18 Upton, Maine.

in numbers, within the last week: the liches & mephs are fast assuming their autumnal tints & a few cold nights have banished nearly all the more delicate summer species of birds. Among the warblers only ~~two~~ species are left in any numbers, *D. coronata*. I saw one each of *Parula am.* *Dend. maculosa* & *D. striata* but the chirping hordes of these birds that a few days since filled the woods, are gone. *Lor. albicollis* & *Junco hy.* with *Parus atr.* *P. ludov.* & *Regulus sat.* & *D. coronata* are now the prominent species in the woods. *Passer. savanna* & *Mel. palustris* on the marsh. *Chry. pinus* are coming about the hour again in large, whirling, eccentric flocks, and I heard a single *Chry. solitarius* to day. *Sp. varius* is still present in small numbers as is *Chry. tristis*.

Mr. G. Hayward informs me that *Mergus am.* ~~winter~~ *Yurdus mig.* winter here every year in small numbers, the former fishing the eddies in the streams.

Sept. 19 Cloudy & rained hard all day. Spent the day about the house being much troubled by rheumatism in my hip.

" 20 Cloudy & clear alternately. Rained very hard last night. After dinner started up E. river in the "stiff". I found that stream much swollen by the late rains, flowing nearly bank full with a rapid current. Shot six birds the best a *Parus. ludovicianus* in full fall plumage. G. O. Brown came in this evening from Bethel & Barston started up the

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Upton, Maine.

Sept. 20.

Mr. Gallaway this morning with J. S. Flint. The steamboat was "hung up" at the mouth of Canab. river while attempting to run in in the dark this evening.

Sunday  
Sept. 21

Clear & cold. Spent the day about the house in P. M. Skinning the birds shot yesterday. Fished an hour or so in the river with my new rod & caught two small fish. The sunset was ~~extremely~~ fine this evening, the ~~fast~~ charging prisms being fairly flooded with brilliant light.

" 22

Clear & warmer than past few days. After breakfast took a trip up C. river in the skiff & shot six birds, two *Parus ludovicianus* etc. This bird (*P. ludovicianus*) has not a single note like *P. atricapillus*. The note described under *Py. 11* is frequently preceded by the sharp che-chit or che-chit-chit, and the single chirp corresponding to that of *P. atr.* is much louder & more persistent & not in any way to be confounded with it. When these sets of notes are the only ones I have heard to be new of, though the bird will sometimes give a sparkling combination of them all in rapid succession.

It is on the whole much more silent & less cheery than *P. atr.*, keeps almost exclusively in the pines & spruces very high up, has a heavier & more cheery flight, & although often seen near does not as a rule associate with that species. Heard several *Picoides arcticus*. Their note (I have heard only one) is not to be distinguished from the "chuck"



1873.

Upton, Maine.

Sept. 22

of the common ground squirrel. Saw of  
~~Chaparral~~ *D. coronata* abundant, *D. maculosa*  
 usual, *D. vivax* do, *Parula am.* do. *Geoth.*  
*trichas* do & *D. canadensis* do. The chief of  
 the latter species is especially like that of *Sum.*  
*hyemalis*. *Sitta can.* is getting very abundant.  
 Saw a few *Chrys. tristis* & *pinus* & a single  
*Chrys. solitarius*, also one *Sp. varius*. In P.M.  
 skinned my birds.

Sept. 23

Cloudy & cold. Spent most of the day  
 packing up.

" 24

Left the lake for home this morning  
 in a pouring rain. The scenery was  
 lovely though chilled & obscured to some  
 degree by the dark gloomy morning; the  
 foliage on the mountain sides had  
 nearly reached its perfection of autumn  
 splendor and exhibited all its gorgeous  
 coloring to perfection in contrast with  
 the dark firs & spruces. In the notch  
 a r. grouse walked out into the road  
 in front of the horses & surveyed us coolly  
 until we were nearly upon her, then  
 with a short flight disappeared among  
 the yellow birches. Near Bethel we began  
 to see numbers of *Minimus* *ser.* along the  
 roadside; did not observe them at all this  
 year at Upton. Reached Cambridge at 9 P.M.  
 & found all well.

1873.Autumn of 1873

Nov 23

Resumé of Sept. Oct. &amp; Nov.

Have then confined ~~to the~~ ~~hunted~~ or to short rides by my lame hip, which makes but slow progress towards recovery. Have however derived much pleasure & profit from my rides which, as the weather has been mostly fine, have been nearly daily. Taking my gun with me on many occasions, have shot several good birds & many common ones. During Oct. W. D. Scott went with me nearly every day. The month of Oct. was exceptionally fine but Nov. rather cold & stormy so far. Birds of all species have been very scarce, the warblers especially so. The arrival of N. species was as follows. *D. coronata* Sept. 28 one spec., ~~about~~ numbers a few days later, *Pyrranga rubra*, shot a ♂ in green plumage with black wings Oct. 15. *Geothlypis hyemalis* Oct. 16 2 spec, gun arrival Oct. 20 when I saw about 50.

*Regulus satrapa* 1 ♂ Oct. 17

Oct. 17 I shot a *Turdus mig.* in the speckled 1st plumage or more properly speaking in transition from that to the fall plumage. It was rather thin in flesh & on dissection I found a hard yellow cancer as large as a walnut attached to the ribs on the right side as well as the liver & crowded in among the intestines. The stomach contained the usual quantity of food ~~and~~ the bird in life was extremely tame.

Oct. 23 Wrote up on the hill with C. M. Carter who started a bag of quail & shot 8



1873

Middlesex County, Mass.

Oct. 25

Drove up to "the hill" with Barston. He shot a snipe & a grouse. I shot a ♀ *G. trichas*, the last of the season. *Turdus pallasi* saw 5 in our garden feeding together on honey suckle berries.

" 29

Oct. 29 went off with Scott: he shot four *Arcturus ludovicianus* from a large flock that was feeding on ploughed land over Belmont; when in a little grassy meadow they would remain perfectly silent & motionless at our over approach & were very difficult to see. Gen. arrival of *Spiz. monticola* this morning.

Nov. 1

Went off with Barston. Saw a ♀ *Melospiza fusca* on Arlington Heights & fired at a grouse in the willows as it ran from the roadside but missed.

" 6

Shot a very fine & adult ♀ *Buteo borealis* from my buggy this morning, on the Winchester place. Its crop contained a small rat head & body detached but both swallowed; in the stomach remains of two or three mice including both heads & bodies & among them a slender white worm about six inches in length. The bird was ~~very~~ fat & they are easily skinned.

" 7

Cloudy & cold. In P. M. drove up on "the hill" with J. Vebot, he proposing to give me a hunt for me. At the first start off he started a small covey two birds of which happened to come out & light was one on the roadside. Calling out V. I took his gun & worked the pump up to them, he pointing both in grand style & I doing my part on each with the first barrel.

1873.Middlesex County, Mass.

Nov. 21

Clear & fine. In A. M. drove up to the willows where I shot at a B. hirsutus but missed him. On the way home blew Belmont drove in to a very fine Archibuteo lagopus & fired a win cartridge at him 60 yds or more & missed clean.

" 22

In A. M. drove over to see V. Smith's & spent the forenoon (ie looking over his stock of birds. He took Ag. vociferans last spring but considers it rare, took a Sterna caspia at Boars head ~~Manuscript~~ this summer (Aug. or Sept) also Falco peregrinus. At Brookline last spring he found My. crinitus quite common in buck swamps! shot (Prinns & could have taken more; they remained all summer. He has also taken three Icteria virens & has seen Cardinalis virgin. (a cage bird however he thinks). In the spring of 1872 he found D. castanea very common & in 1873 D. blackburnian. On the way over I fired at a Buteo borealis & a crow but missed both.

Nov. 25

Light snow. Saw three or four large flocks of Turdus mig. they have been present all the autumn. Near Belmont saw a quail cross the road & trying my horn took "Shot." & started the coveys (only 3) & pulled both barrels on them killing with the 2nd a fine cock

" 26

Took my usual drive I saw 4 hawks & fired etc. B. hirsutus

" 27

Saw four Zenaidura macroura in our garden

" 28

Took a bird & fired 5 times at hawks, seeing two Archibuteo lagopus

" 29

" " " " saw an Archibuteo on Brook Meadow.



November 1873

Winter habits of Buteo & Archibuteo

For the last three weeks the interior of the country both to the north and west has been buried in snow while a narrow strip bordering on the sea coast and extending inland perhaps eight or ten miles has been left nearly bare.

As a consequence several species of birds have flocked into our section in more than ordinary numbers. Hawks especially have ~~seen~~ occurred in remarkable ~~numbers~~ abundance, and I have had a fine opportunity of studying the habits of three of the larger species side by side - namely - B. Borealis, B. lineatus and Archibuteo lagopus - To begin with the Buteo, They are usually given by authors as possessing the same habits, cry, &c. but it is not so, at least in my experience, for in all these I found them to differ essentially - B. Borealis is a bird of the open. All day long it sits in an erect posture on ~~some~~ the horizontal branch of some detached clump in the meadows, or occasionally on the edge of some little oak grove over a springy "run" on the sheltered side of a hill, watching intently the ground beneath - If it perceives a mouse or other small quadruped it glides swiftly downwards with half closed wings, then extending its claws and raising its wings, seizes its prey, and either devours it on the spot or moves with it to some distance - Frequently it misses its aim, stands a moment watching, then as it spies its would be victim making off perhaps several yards ahead, runs clumsily with flapping wings in pursuit and eagerly strikes again, but in this second attempt I have rarely seen it succeed -

Sometimes you see one sitting for a long time motionless and erect in the tall grass watching like a cat, or perhaps walking slowly with a sidelong motion - at this season it feeds exclusively on mice and rats, in early Spring on toads, frogs, snakes &c - I doubt if it ever attacks birds - for in about a dozen specimens examined at different seasons, I have never been able to detect any of their remains, and I have never in a single instance seen it pursue one of them on the wing - A wounded quail or snipe may occasionally fall a prey, but such instances must be very rare. A mouse when seized is usually torn in two, and the head and body bolted whole, while a rat is divided into 3 or 4 parts, but swallowed skin, bones, and all. By noon 5 or 6 mice &c are generally captured, the crop and stomach both filled and the bird either removes to some high perch where it may remain undisturbed, or betakes itself to sailing in most graceful circles high up in the sky -

Its flight is slow and rather heavy, but its aerial evolutions extremely majestic and beautiful. When removing from one place to another it proceeds in a straight course, with 3 or 4 rather deliberate flaps of the wing, then an interval of sailing. When about to alight on a tree, it shoots upward in a cycloid curve, drops its feet to a branch, and closes its wings, frequently without a single flap. Sometimes I have seen it swoop down from an <sup>immense</sup> height and almost grazing the ground, sweep upward in the above described curve and alight almost without a perceptible motion of the wings - It never hunts its ground <sup>on wing</sup> ~~or wing~~ or swoops upon its directly from the air - It frequents



Nov. 1873

the same field day after day, and may usually be found upon one of two or three favorite perches. Under ordinary circumstances you may approach it easily enough in a waggon, provided you are careful not to look at it too hard, or to drive directly towards it - but rather approach in a circle. You must however be ready to shoot the instant your horse stops, as that instant it will nearly to a certainty take wing. Should you miss or even slightly wound the bird it may remove only a few hundred yards, and you can (not infrequently) drive up again within good range - As it seems to apprehend no danger unless you are on foot, when few birds are more systematically shy -

The only cry I can refer with certainty to this species is a loud scream like the syllables Cree-e-e-Cree-e-ek - repeated 5 or 6 times, and very different from the shrill whe-e-eo of the Red Shouldered hawk so often mimicked by the Jays - It is my impression that this species is a much rarer occurrence in Massachusetts than is usually supposed in the breeding season than is usually supposed. The following species is I think often confounded with it -

*B. lineatus*, this species haunts at this season the edges of swampy woods, adjoining meadow land, or sits for hours at a time on a lofty branch of some oak or hickory that towers above the surrounding forest. During the Spring Summer and early Autumn it keeps within the woods, rarely coming out of their darkness and shadow, except when removing ~~to~~ to some distant spot - or indulging in soarings common to all the family -

I have never been fortunate

enough to see it strike its prey, though judging from analogy I think its motions at such times must be more rapid and dashing than *B. Borrealis*, and I suspect that it also preys more on larger animals and birds, although it is in its habits nearly as sluggish as its congener; its flight is much quicker and lighter and its sailings less protracted and majestic. It may at all times be readily distinguished from the former bird - Its smaller size is very apparent, and white, perched its bright red breast, and in the air the whitish bars on the tail are very conspicuous -

It is much more shy of a horse and wagon than the other species, and will rarely allow itself to be approached in that way -

When startled from its perch it flies rapidly with continued, quick powerful flaps of the wing - like the domestic pigeon - for a few hundred yards, then proceeds more leisurely with occasional sailings. Its loud whistling whe - r - o - whe - r - o - po often imitated by the jays is the only note I have ever heard, and is not to be confounded with the cry of any other New England Hawk.

It is much less common in the vicinity of Cambridge than the "red tail" but in more densely wooded sections the reverse is true

"*Archibuteo lagopus*" - This bird is in habits almost totally unlike either of the preceding, or indeed, any other hawk with which I am acquainted

It seems to haunt exclusively the open meadows and contrary to the usually accepted idea, is much more active than either of its fellows. Indeed in general habits, it more resembles *Circus* -



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leaving its perch it flies a few hundred yards, then poising above the meadow at the height of perhaps fifty (50) feet, maintains its position for a moment or two with continued flappings, until getting fairly balanced, it will float for many minutes at a time, on entirely motionless, outspread wings, its body nearly horizontal, the head lowered, and eyes keenly scanning the ground below.

On several occasions I have seen it breast in this way a moderately strong wind for some time, without a single apparent motion or any perceptible drift - and when thus poised it ~~strongly~~ strongly reminds one of a stuffed bird suspended by a wire - This feat I have never seen performed by any <sup>other</sup> bird, though I find it attributed to "Beuteo Montanus", by a writer, in a recent number of "Nature", whose explanation of the feat thereof would however, utterly fail in the present instance as all the conditions necessary to support his theory have been under my observations, entirely reversed - After alternately flapping and poising should it fail in its search, it proceeds to another part of the meadow, and then repeats the performance - and if after trying several places, it is still unsuccessful, it almost invariably returns to the first point, and begins again -

When at length it discovers a mouse, or other small quadruped, it descends in a succession of curves as on the line a to B - eagerly protruding its talons as it nears the earth - (As I have seen it strike its victim only 3 or 4 times I am not sure that this singular mode of descent is always followed, indeed in the only instance where I saw one swoop from a tree, it sailed down on a nearly even plane.)

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Should it miss its aim it rises to the height of a few yards, and poising again awaits the re-appearance of its prey - this, when finally secured is devoured on the spot -

Its ordinary flight is, though straightforward and slow, rather light and easy with nearly constant flappings, and at such times, it resembles more a gull than a Hawk - but in its lofty aerial sailings, it is hardly to be distinguished from the "Red Tail" except perhaps by its greater size -

When about to alight, it chooses some large detached tree, and rising to the topmost twig - settles easily and lightly - keeping its wings spread for an instant to maintain its balance. In this, I think almost universal habit of choosing the topmost twig for its perch, it differs from all the other, it differs from all the other large New England Hawks, and its appearance as it sits with its body nearly horizontal, swaying up and down with the wind on some slender spray, is quite unique -

Perhaps the proportionately small size of the feet, may show a special adaptation for this habit. I have heard no cry or note of any kind -

### Resume' of Dec. 1873

Compare with Nov. the month has been much warmer & more pleasant with no snow until Dec. 27.

Birds of all kinds scarce - with the exception of Hapthorn species. Rather more juncos & R. satrapas, about than usual, but sparrows chickadees & C. exceptionally few in numbers. No winter birds, "par excellence," (as we call them) at all, except the ever present P. nivalis but even they have been rarely seen. Did not hear of Chry. pinus at all this autumn. My leg getting better fast, and I can



Dec. 1873

now walk  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile without difficulty,  
Nov. we enlarged the "Bird club."

by the addition of four new members  
elected officers &c. & gave the name of the  
"Vt. Orn. Club." Dec. 22 H. W. Henshaw  
dropped in on me quite unexpectedly  
he had arrived two days before, &  
remained in C. till Jan. when he  
left for Washington. Dec. 23 we (H. & I.)  
went down to Ipswich together &  
passed a pleasant day with C. J. M.

Dec. 25 we had a pigeon shoot (under  
conditions, tame birds &c.) at Watstown.

Score of shoot, Dec. 25-1873

									Total	
E. M. Carter	1	1	1	00	1	00	1	01	1	6
E. J. Barstow	0	1	0	00	1	00	00	0	0	2
E. Read	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
R. Deane	1	1	<sup>m.f.</sup> 0	0	1	1	1	1		6
Tucker	00	1	00	1	01	00	00	1		3
A. Smith	1	1	1	1	00	0	00	1		5
G. Dodge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Corblygh	0	1	<sup>m.f.</sup> 0	<sup>m.f.</sup> 0	1	0	0	00		2
Wm. Brewster	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1		7

The day was a remarkably good one, with  
no wind, but the shooting very poor.

W. D. Scott left C. about the 19<sup>th</sup> for a  
three or four weeks trip to N. Jersey.

W. Storn has spent a number of days with  
me in the first part of the month getting after  
birds on bird-stuffing &c. he seems a good  
fellow. Dec. 20 he left for Fla. & will await  
Maynard at Cedar Keys.

Cambridge Dec. 31-1873

End of year 1873

January, 1874

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Jan. 1-14. The weather has been for the most part mild. The snow that came in Dec. lasted only a few days into the new year & the ground has since been bare up to yesterday (13<sup>th</sup>) when we had another fall of about a foot. *Junco* and *Begulus atrape* still continue about. W. D. Scott returned from N. J. on the 9<sup>th</sup>. He found *Sialia sialis* in abundance also observed numbers of *Barns villosus* there. Met one day last week a man in Goodale's, who is a professional pigeon breeder and who gave me much valuable information concerning the habits of that bird (*Coturnix migratorius*). He says that all the pigeons in the country (with the exception of straggling pairs & small communities) collect yearly into an immense breeding colony, and that only one such colony can be found at a time in the States. The birds however if disturbed to an excessive extent break up the community & select a place for another at the distance of 100 or more miles. The largest "breeding roost" he ever visited was in June 1872 on the E. shore of Michigan: it was 20 miles long by 6 to 7 in width. He is of the opinion that the birds are on the increase as he sees larger numbers every successive spring & accounts for it by the increase of the supply of cereal food. My scribe Mr. Mackay is reading Darwin's "Descent of Man" & I find it even more interesting than the "Origin of Species," his fairness in bringing forward conflicting evidence, & that when he cannot disprove it, is very taking.



Jan. 1874

1874.Middlebury County, Mass.

Jan. 20

Went into Boston in P.M. In Goodale's shop saw a *Nyctale richardsoni* which he had purchased in the market: it came from Minn. and is the first that he has ever had. In a box of birds "in the flesh" from Mr. over two fine ♀ *Picoides arcticus*, in much better plumage I ever saw them in summer, also a ♂ *Curvirostra americana*, in no better plumage than we get them here at ~~the~~ corresponding season. Dropping in at Rich's bird store I was much interested in watching three or four specimens of *Loxia curvirostra* from Germany, one of them in a curious yellow plumage with a few blotches of red, which I took to be an immature ♂ was trying to pry apart the wires of his cage. ~~By~~ Inserting his bill vertically between two of them, ~~this~~ would open ~~his bill~~ it sideways, and strain against the wires with either mandible until the cross tips were carried by one another, actually crossing on the other side, and the mandibles seemed ready to part company. This lateral motion I have never seen used to such an extent before by any bird.

Jan. 24

A fine warm springlike day. After breakfast started off in my buggy with Scott. Took a short run through Stebbins' woods in Watertown where I shot two *Spiz. monticola*, and watched a fine adth. *Buteo borealis* which we heard repeatedly utter the cry described in preceding notes on the buzzards.

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January 24 pages 130-134. It also rose in slow circlings to an immense height without flapping its wings at all for several minutes. Getting into the buggy again we drove up to Waverly and getting the team, with considerable difficulty up the rough rocky wood path I tied the horse and we commenced to rummage round through the woods. Although birds were very scarce, the enjoyment to me of being once more in the woods, with tolerably sound legs under me was, after my long imprisonment, enough & I enjoyed the forenoon to the utmost. I shot 5 *Regulus satrapa* & Scott a *Barns atricap.* We saw also a small flock of Chry. virens and a *Picus pubescens*. On the way home I fired at a Crow with Scott's gun & took feathers at very long range, 90 yds at least. Two *Melos. melodia* were seen to day & one shot (F. Bailey Newton)

Jan. 25 Very cold & windy: ground entirely bare. In P.M. drove over to Medford with E. Carter & called on my ornithological friend W. Thompson. On the way saw a ~~very~~ large & white *Collyria borealis* feeding on a bird apparently half as large as itself. It was sitting on a low bush by the roadside. At our approach grasped the bird in its claws and with legs extended down to their full length, flew heavily to an adjoining



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thicket. I was sufficiently near to see distinctly that it held its booty in both feet.

Jan. 24 Was visited this evening by my friend Capt. S. S. Baster of Masstons Mills, Cap. C. He says that Passinago wilsoni, Bellus virginianus, & For. carolina (?), are wintering there in numbers as usual. He also started a woodcock (P. minor) about the last of Dec. The snipe frequent a ~~narrow~~ strip of springy marsh, extending ~~thence~~ <sup>thence</sup> three miles up a small river, where the ground now freezes & the grass remains green the season round.

Jan. 28 Had a call this morning from Mr. Edgar Hunt of Deer Me. He describes Chrysomitris pinus as abdt. there every winter (this included) but not found in summer. He does not however think that they breed there at this season; he says this winter is a very poor one there for birds. no Pinicola canadensis at all. Regulus satrapa winters there very few in small numbers.

" 30 Clear & mild. In P.M. took up to Mt. Auburn on the car and tramped all over "the farm" but saw nothing

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worth shooting at, except a few *Spiz. monticola* which I fired the flying shots at for practice, killing one of them. The ground continues bare of snow.

Feb. 5-

Had a fall of a foot of snow on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Took a high ride this P.M. and saw a flock of about 100 *P. nivalis* feeding among the weeds in a large fallow field in Watertown. The regularity of their appearance inland after every snow storm where snow had been seen for perhaps weeks before, is something remarkable. *Regulus satrapa* still here.

" 15

Yesterday a heavy rain & high temperature and the snow entirely disappeared. To day *Arnpelis cedrorum* appeared in large flocks.

Saw as many as 150 individuals in all. A flock of 50 remained in our yard nearly all day apparently resting after their journey and reconnoitering the premises, especially the cedar tree at the corner of the house through some pointed into it (the tree).

" 16

An early-spring day, intervals of cloud dissipation and frequent snow squalls. Drove up to the "Warren ~~road~~" and tying my horse



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Feb. 16

Middlesex County, Mass.

Took a tramp of a few miles through that old haunt of mine. Shot six Regulus satrapa getting fairly good specimens: they are unusually abundant this winter.

N. cedrorum were all over the city and numbers invaded the cedar tree to feed on the berries: they were I think, trouble the asparagus bed on their first arrival preferring the cedars which their berries lost.

Besides their usual gee-zee, they utter while perched a low liquid note of two or three or syllables. Saw several darting out after snow flakes and catching them adroitly a-la-flycatcher (also see notes written of 1867 or 8). Crows seem to be increasing in numbers & are more noisy & restless: altogether the first scene of the great Panorama spring may be said to have opened

Feb. 17

Skinned to day ten Tringa mantid shot on Grand Manan N.B. Jan 25 or thereabouts. They were all very fat - their stomachs I found crammed with hard substances, gravel, fragments of broken shells &c. but no soft food though it might have been diminished by decomposition which had already well advanced. Four Pinicola enuchator, five Parus atricapillus, a Regulus satrapa (c) & a few Parus made up the contents of the box

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Feb. 19

Cloudy but still warm & pleasant. Took a trip up to the farm with Scott and spent a pleasant forenoon there. On "Funch's hill" I heard a Catharus borealis singing in his usual varied mimicking strains and we finally detected him in a tall oak accompanied by a pair of blue jays but he was too shy to be approached; after a long pursuit we gave him up in disgust. Afterwards we came across I think the largest flock of Chrysomitris tristis that I ever saw: there were not less than 100 of them in one small birch tree & feeding in their characteristic manner & we secured 8 in two shots. Although comparatively mute they are at times at this season all the notes except the murren song. Several flocks of A. cedrorum were seen circling around but they have not attacked the asparagus berries as yet. We also met with a few Juncos and a Tricus pubescens. Crows were not in force and Cyanura cristata are getting abundant. Have not seen or heard of a single Certhia am. this winter, a quite unprecedented occurrence. The ground is entirely bare & the roads dry.

" 23

Cloudy & foggy clearing, in P.M. Saw the first Sialia palis\*, a single bird that flew over our yard in the

\* I heard singing at Concord Mass Feb. 26th



Feb. 1874

afternoon, uttering its call note only.  
 Had a small pigeon shoot in the fields near Fresh p. in the morning but the dark lowering sky & thick fog rendered the shooting very difficult.

## Score of pigeon shoot Feb. 23 1874

Carter C.H.	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	6
Barston	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0		3
Dean R.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1		2
Brewster W.	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	8
Read E.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

St. B. Bailey made a trip to ~~Ward's~~ is (Boston Har) where he found Oenophila cornuta quite abundant in small flocks & secured them specimens. He also presented me with a Podiceps grisagaria (?) which had been taken there a week or two previous.

Feb. 25 Cloudy & cold snow fell to the depth of about 1 ft.

March 1 In P.M. down over to Brookline & dropped in on A Smith. He has a Falco columbarius shot in jaw. & has killed Philobela minor about the middle of that month; the latter bird was however very much infested and apparently sick. A Chordeiles migratorius seen yesterday in C. by W. Woodman.

March 1874

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March 3 Clear & warm with S. wind. The ground is now bare in patches and the roads in an almost impassible condition. Went up on "the farm" in the morning. Saw about a dozen *S. virens* all males and in full song. The cedar birds seem to be less abundant than they were two weeks ago and have not touched the asparagus berries as yet. As I lay at full length on the grass under the sheltered lee of the cedar ridge I noticed several grasshoppers (in the larval stage) hopping clumsily about and catching a few I found them of two kinds or at least two sexes one variety being brown and the other a uniform grass green. The large blue bodied blow fly *L. latro* noticed in nearly every sheltered spot crawling about in a state of semi-torpor. I heard two *M. melodia* singing in that subdued antiphonal manner to this season. I think that they were winter birds and that none have arrived from the S. as yet. In an old apple stump among the cedars a pair of birds had commenced excavating a nest and the snow below was strewn for many yards around with fresh chips. I think they must have been *P. atricapillus* a pair of which I saw not far off but the hole (already sunk to the depth of several inches) was



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Feb. 23

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rather large and ragged for a piece of their handiwork. A *Sciurus hudsonicus* that I shot was absolutely swarming with large reddish fleas, and was in a state of transition between the winter & summer pelage. Their amorous inclinations are beginning to develop, as shown by their chasing one another about the trees and being bolder & more noisy. I have not however heard them sound their long rattling note or song as I should call it, yet.

March 9 Have been confined to the house again for now nearly a week by a lame knee. Going into a dark room I ran against a chair striking my knee slightly a little below the joint. I thought nothing about it at the time but a few days after it began to be sore & painful & now I can scarcely hobble up & down stairs; verily my store of ill luck is inexhaustible. The ground is now quite bare again the frost nearly out & the weather fine & bright nights & warm in the day time with some of the characteristic March winds as yet. Everything seems to betoken an early spring & I should not wonder if we had a good flight of swine before the month is out. S. vires I see every day

March 1874

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March 9

in my rids but their numbers have not increased much since the 3<sup>rd</sup>. M. melodia have been reported (R. Dean & H. Bailey) as in full song but not having been out early in the day I have failed to hear them. H. Bailey saw (Mar. 7) a flock of blackbirds in the distance. I thought them A. phoeniceus.

March 12

Cloudy & threatening, with occasional snow squalls. Very cold. Ther. 10° at sunset. Took a ride in P.M. & saw a flock of 8 Sialia sialis settling about discolorated & in silence under the lee of a protecting ridge of land: March 16<sup>th</sup> I saw two ♀ for the first time, both already paired. My knowledge is rather better though by no means well. Last night arrived two large boxes of birds from Dr. Munro: 24 S. maritima, 4 Larus argentatus (one immature) & Lomvia troil (one) & Spiz. monticola, Reg. setacea & Harada glacialis. To day I skinned a few of the Tringa we found them like the last very fat, the gizzards filled with fragments of a pink shelled crustacean & the sexual organs but a trifle more developed. For structural points I cannot see that they differ at all from our summer species; this fish has however a much less sunk snout & their patters & far thicker



March 1874

The four *L. marinus* throat I skinned to day, preserved much more easy of manipulation than the *L. Hutchinsii* (?) that I operated upon a few weeks since; they were not in fact, harder to skin ~~than~~ <sup>than</sup> specimens of *L. argentatus*. The inner coat of down nearest the skin was almost as impervious as felt & must be a most effectual protection against the cold. They were none of them very fat in this respect differing from *L. argentatus* which is nearly always laden with fat at this season.

March 15<sup>th</sup> The last four or five days have been very windy & exceptionally cold for the season the therm ranging from 10° to 26°. To day the weather has moderated & things look more springlike. This morning there was a flock of about 20 juncos in our garden the males singing loudly. I think they were arrivals although there has been a small flock resident in the neighborhood & rather more have wintered anywhere here, than usual. H. A. Purdie who has just returned from a trip to N. Y. reports *Philohela minor*, *Pass. iliaca* & *Leis. passerator* at Plainfield N. J. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> (March)

March 16 Clear and warm. Took a ride this morning, up through Waverly and heard about a dozen *M. melodia*, in different places, in full song. Some have evidently arrived from the S. but they are but the vanguard to the army that will be here in a few days. Charles Sumner's funeral took place here, this P.M. and the streets were crowded.

" 19 Rained hard all day. A little up a little towards evening, when I took a ride over my usual course. Saw the first *Tamias striata* a fair blue bird &c. The grass is getting green on the foot all out on the upland and there will be a rush of early spring birds in a day or two. (4 *Lus. versicolor* seen by J. Nesbitt)

" 20 Clear & cool with a bracing N. wind. In P.M. took a drive around Mt. Auburn & through Belmont. A most sudden & wonderful arrival of several species of birds, took place to day. *Turdus migratorius* suddenly appeared everywhere. I saw a host twenty single birds in different places hopping about on the ground or calling in that soft quivering undertone, peculiar to early spring; one I heard, in the



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Middlesex County, Mass.

March 22.

middle of the day we full song in Mr. Hubbard's yard opposite. I have never known this occur before for at least a week after this general arrival. At sunset I saw a large flock, 40 at least, flying N. high up in the air. Crows low. I noticed also towards evening, pushing North in compact bodies of 30 or more, a single *A. phoeniceus* ~~passing~~ over my head bound in the same direction, and the blue birds & song sparrows have certainly thrilled their numbers since yesterday.

March 21

Clear but cool with N. wind. After breakfast started for a tramp over the farm taking my new Jones br. loader. As I took the car in front of the barn a *Par. iliaca* was singing beautifully in the opposite yard & I detected several others flitting about among the cirsiums. On the farm birds of all the to be expected kinds were in abundance. On the tall oaks around the little pond were half a dozen or more of red wings & their old familiar "quack a-see" recalled as usual pleasant recollections of Green meadows, ~~but~~ <sup>the</sup> valley was of waving green grass, the croak of the rail, the mellow trill of the swamp sparrow. On the large asparagus bed I found a flock of about 100 *A. cedrorum* feeding for the first time on the berries, & undoubtedly

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Middlesex County, Mass.

March 21

My ~~birds~~ from having been shot at a good deal of late. Juncos though not at all abundant were in full song as were also the mounted & the song of *Colaptes auratus* so indispensable from its very commonness was ~~also~~ heard for the first time. I now saw in a morning, more *S. socialis*, but either ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~many~~ sparrows have not all arrived or are less abundant than usual. I took only five birds two Juncos, ~~20~~ <sup>2</sup> *Aspurgis*, & one melodia. On my returning to the house at noon found a flock of about 30 Quails. *versicolor* in our elms & tried to get a shot but they were too shy. In P.M. took a ride with father & saw a very white *Colinus borealis* in Belmont.

March 22

Saw the first *Cinclus ludovicianus*. At sunset this evening a number of Robins were perched on the trees around the house calling to one another & saw or two sang for a few minutes as it was getting dark, but they are not in full song yet by any means.

" 25

Yesterday, was very cold this morning down to 4°. with a fall of about 1 inch of snow. The day the weather moderated and I took a turn up through



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March 25

Middlesex County, Mass. - Watertown.

the farm and beyond, walking in  
 all farther than I have before for a  
 whole year. The day was very windy  
 and birds quiet & confined to sheltered  
 sunny exposures. The first specimen I  
 shot was a ♀ junco that to day  
 the least closely approaches *J. <sup>rugosus</sup> antiochus*  
 of the West. It was alone & very shy  
 the note (I heard the chuck & the nervous  
 twittering alarm signal) exactly like *J. hyemalis*  
 and in all other respects indeed I  
 noticed no difference till it was secured.

Also shot four *J. hyemalis*, a *Melodia*  
*halia*; & *Sceliphagus ferrugineus*  
 five of which (including one ♀) I  
 found gabbling in their usual discordant  
 chorus from a tall oak near the  
 trout brook. A *M. melodia*, that I was  
 tipped, actually ran so fast (not using  
 its wings at all) that it beat me in  
 a chase 50 yds stretch for a bush pile,  
 & escaped, though I am now nearly  
 as quick & strong on my legs as  
 of old. Saw a large flock of *Ag. phoeniceus*,  
 & another of *A. cedrorum* near the  
 asparagus beds. Heard very few birds  
 singing this morning except song  
 sparrows & an occasional bluebird: a  
 ♂ of the latter, that I shot although  
 apparently well & in good spirits,  
 showed on dissection a wound in the  
 abdomen around which the flesh &  
 skin had completely mortified. Mr. L. Penn  
 informed me a few days since the woodcock was  
 seen in several places three weeks ago.

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1874

Middlesex County, Mass. — Belmont.

March 26

Cloudy & warm with moist S. wind. After breakfast drove up to the Belmont meadows taking shot & beat for snipe but found the ground frozen underneath and no signs of birds: a few stragglers may be here but the time is not yet.

Afterwards drove up to the Wierum run & tried to shoot a woodcock but could find no traces of any; he however drew on the track of a grouse & going too fast, ran in on him. Took only two birds a M. picoris, ~~three~~ of which I saw for the first time, and a Passer domesticus which I was much surprised at detecting among a peromyscus throng of sparrows on the Fresh p. turnpike: it was a young bird in exceedingly shabby and worn plumage, and attracted my attention by its peculiar note & manner of flight. Then was I think a general arrival of Sc. ferrugineus: I saw them everywhere at least thirty in all. Saw for first time, Car. purpureus (♂ singing in moderation), M. picoris (♂ & ♀ the former already swelling himself up & pouring his addresses to the latter) and Sturnella magna (two whistling on the B. meadows). The migrations of the early-coming sparrows is now at its height: every bushy hollow and hedge-row is swarming with M. rubrocapilla & S. monticola & Junco are in abundance in the fallow fields & evergreen thickets. Heard also a Par. bicolor singing finely & M. Hubbardi for the first time this morning. Saw Ag. phoeniceus



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March 26

gathered over ~~the~~ swamps & meadows for the first time. The late severe frost has killed the sterling grass & the fields are as brown & bare as in winter. Have just learned that R. Nesbitt was chased of me on the meadows this morning and flushed a single snipe on the meadow below Magnus' house.

---

March 27

W. Woodman brought in a Loon, albicollis that he shot this morning in Norton's woods. It was in curious plumage, the under parts finely striated like the rust before its first moult. The dorsal aspect as in immature birds of a year's growth. I think that under some abnormal condition. I had failed to moult at least the under portions of its plumage, and may very probably have found the winter plum as it is much too early in the season to expect even stragglers of the migration.

---

" 28

Had a snow fall of at least 10 inches this morning but it must disappear rapidly as the ground is soft underneath.

---

" 31

Cloudy, and very chilly & cold. The ground is again bare. Drove over to Brookline after breakfast & met A. Smith by appointment. Having taken out

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Brookline, Mass.

March 31

my horse & put him up in the barn we set out for a tramp. The country in that neighborhood is very wild & beautiful and I enjoyed the day much ~~despite~~ the inclemency of the weather.

Scarcely had we left the road that a grouse rose from a clump of barberry bushes & I doubled here up neatly at 35 paces with an ounce of No 8. from my Game G. loader, considering the fact that I wanted a bird in spring plumage a sufficient excuse for disregarding the season. On dissection I found the ovaries but slightly developed none of them larger than No 1 shot. We shortly came across the largest flock of *Par. idaea* that I ever saw at least 100, the males singing in choruses like blackbirds. They were in oak & pine large growth & were extremely shy, but by persevering I secured a dozen in all. Among some thickly growing white pines we heard a owl hooting, what species I know not, as it was a different cry from any I am familiar with though most nearly resembling the barred owl.

On another occasion we heard a short sharp bark from a huge pine ahead. Smith immediately remarked that he had never heard a similar sound in the woods before but thought it might be some animal cry of a gray squirrel but scarcely were the words out of his mouth than a bird about the size & shape of *Ac. Cooperii* left the tree &



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March 31

made off with a peculiar moth-like, flickering flight. Following on we again heard its barking note but were unable to ~~discover it~~. We both agreed that it was most probably *Sturnia vulgaris*. I saw a single *Certhia am.* for the first time this year & S. also affirms that he has not noticed either thrush or *Sitta carolinensis* this winter. After a lunch at his house, I reached home by 2 P.M. The *Par. idaea* proved as usual very fat & hard to skin. They have, when angered, a "chuck" nearly like that of *Junco hyemalis*: their ordinary whisp. is louder than any other sparrows except *Zon. albicollis*. The song is rich, wild & beautiful, more vigorous than that of *Sp. monticola* though otherwise bearing a slight resemblance to it.

April 3

Drove up to the Burnside meadows and beat in vain for snipe. Killed a *Say. fuscus* for the first time here though Goodale shot one at Lynn on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

" 5

Clear & warm. In the forenoon took a walk up in the fields with D.C. Trunk & started a snipe which "shot" pointed. It is the first that I have seen. During the last three weeks the external face of the country has changed little or none. The grass is still brown.

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Apr. 8

Middlesex County, Mass.

Chas & Phasant. Saw three Hir. bicolor flying about my box, this morning, for the first time, though they were seen in Boston more than a week ago by Messrs. Birby & Purdie.

" 10 The weather during the past week has been most capricious. Nearly every morning ushered in by a lowering sky & thickly falling snow, the snow out by noon & snow all gone by evening leaving everything in a miserably slippery condition. Have been confined to the house during the entire week by a bad sore throat with feverish symptoms accompanying, but am at last coming out of it. Saw this evening a single Nyc. gardenii flying high over our place & its dark figure outlined against the fading light recalled an April evening now four seasons past, when with eager eyes, through the same window I watched, perhaps this self same bird, silently winging its way northward, I a cripple & a prisoner & destined to remain so (though I knew it not) through the longest year I ever hope to pass.

as Apr. 13

A ♂ Pooecetes gramineus was heard singing at Newton this morning.



April 1874

1874

Middlesex County, Mass. - Watertown.

Apr. 14

Clear with warm S. wind; rather too much wind in fact for a good day. Feeling nearly well of my sore throat. I took my gun after breakfast & ran up on the farm. Birds even remarkably quiet & shy & hardly ~~any~~ singing. Took some eight specimens. Saw for first time Regulus calendula Dend. Pinas, D. palmarum & I. pallasi. The kinglet was singing most exquisitely & with full vigor. Saw two D. pinas both males & both attracted me by their song which however was not uttered with the usual strength but rather in undertone. The I. pallasi were scattered about in various places & I must have seen half a dozen in all. The only note I heard was the usual characteristic chuck; one little group of three I found exceedingly shy inasmuch that I followed them a long distance before getting a shot. The migration of Juncos is apparently at its height; I must have seen 30 in one flock. The males uttering their monotonous songs & chasing one another continually through the trees. Heard several Car. fulgurans in the air overhead but saw none lighted. Saw Anthopa butterflies for the first time but there is but little starting up of vegetation yet except in my sheltered places & the ground this morning was frozen hard. H. bicolor appeared again to day in our yard; they have been absent since the 5th.

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April 15

Middlesex County, Mass. - Belmont.

Clear S. wind & very warm, Ther 60°. After breakfast drove up to the Belmont meadows for a try at the snipe. Had beaten but a short distance when "Gros" came to a point near the brook: seeing a Robin a few rods ahead of him I paid little attention to his swarming, & was walking by him when a snipe ran directly in front of his nose & I knocked it over fifteen paces or so off. Afterwards I found abundance of signs in the bottom of Hittingers ploughed field but as no birds were there, ~~collected~~ they had fed there during the night & moved on towards day break or perhaps removed but a short distance into the large tussocky meadows. This occurrence of finding a surprising show of fresh signs & no birds there is of constant recurrence in snipe shooting. I think however that we have had no heavy flight of birds yet. The meadows are still hard underneath in places although the warmth of the last two days, has started the grass in places. Last night I heard the hylas for the first time & to day Bruf. Am. was in full trill: usually he is several weeks later than his cousin. In the swamp heard numbers of M. pictus on the meadows a few P. americana, & on Sparks St. a single S. socialis. R. Darn shot a D. Johnsonianum this morning. I also heard P. gambelii everywhere.



April 1874

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April 16Middlesex County, Mass. - Watertown.

Cloudy & a little cooler. Ther 42° at sunrise. After breakfast took my gun & went up on the farm but the wind blew such a gale that it was hard to either see or hear anything. I shot in all 8 specimens 5 *D. fima* (2 ♂), 1 *D. palmarum* & 2 *D. pallasi*. *D. palmarum* has a chirp differing from that of any other warbler though approximating somewhat to the guttural one of *D. coronata*. In the woods beyond the brook I found a crows nest but as the tree was a hard one did not try to ascend it. Both old birds were on the ground, and evinced considerable anxiety flying about out of range & cawing loudly; this I consider unusual as they generally avoid the vicinity of the nest or which may keep silence. For the oak woods near the Arsenal I flushed a brood of 13 quail and going cautiously to the spot where they hid, saw them running swiftly through the bushes their bodies so upright as to appear nearly perpendicular & looking much larger than they really are. Saw two more Sp. socialis to day. The screech of *Perisoreus gramineus* is exceedingly loud and strong & is sometimes repeated in a hurried manner five or six times in succession. I am confident that I can distinguish it from any other passerine note. The meadows are now overflowing with wild pigeons from the many of the fields containing eggs.

April 1874

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1874

Middlesex County, Mass.

April 17 Cloudy & cold with E. wind. Started off as usual in the morning taking "Shot". Beat the fields below Fresh Pond without finding any Snipe so set to work on small birds and took in all seven. 2 *P. gramineus* 2 *D. palmarum*, 1 *M. parvirostris*, & 2 *P. savanna*. Saw *D. coronata* for first time, about 6 specimens in all. Saw also a single *Reg. satrapa*. *P. gramineus* are in companies of 20 or more and are evidently migrants. They were singing in a rather unfinished practising strain. *P. savanna* are also in flocks and have not scattered over the meadows yet. Heard a few fox sparrows in Gray's woods, the only ones since my excursion with Smith in Brooklyn. Forgot to note *A. cedrorum* yesterday: I saw several small flocks on the farm.

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April 22 Left Boston this evening by the 9 P.M. train on the B. & N. R.R. with R. Deane for a two weeks collecting trip to Petroleum, Pitcher Co. W. Va. Took a sleeping berth and passed a good night.

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April 23 Arrived at N. Y. City at 1 this morning. By delaying too long in the car we lost the transfer coaches and had to make the best of our way across the city in



April 1874

1874.  
April 23Jersey City N. J. to Washington, D. C.

Left New York in train. At  
Taylor's Hotel in Jersey City we  
had a most excellent breakfast,  
and left there by the 8.45 train  
on the P. R. & W. R. R., arriving  
in Washington at 5.20 P.M. Very  
little advance in vegetation we  
noticed in ~~vegetation~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~N. J.~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~area~~.  
although we saw large numbers  
of *H. boreorum* just outside the  
city but as we approached Phil.  
a very sudden advance of season  
was manifest. Peach trees were in  
full bloom and below Baltimore  
cherry, pear and apple trees. Near  
Harrisburg we saw the first  
*Cathartes aura*, six or seven, sitting  
together on an old tree. On Bush  
and Gumpowden rivers ~~ducks~~ absolutely  
swarmed; at least 1000 were in  
sight at once, not in a close  
flock but scattered at intervals  
of a few rods over several miles  
of water, dotting the surface as  
far as the eye could reach; apparently  
the greater number were *Aythya* —?  
and some species of *Fulix*.

The country from New York to  
Washington is remarkably level  
and uniform, ~~isotopic~~ <sup>isotopic</sup> ~~monotonous~~  
in appearance. Deciduous trees  
predominate in the woods, but  
the red cedar and scrub pine  
are not wanting; the former grows  
much more luxuriantly than in Mass.

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Washington, D.C.

April 24

Washington. Arrived here last night and were most cordially received by Henry St. whom we dropped in on at 1741 G. St. and found in most comfortable, & indeed elegant quarters. Sat up in his room talking till about 11 when we turned in. H. D. & myself occupying one bed. I believe my misfortunes are ineluctable: in the night my bed fellow turned over suddenly striking my knee with such force as to cause me an agony of pain and in the morning I found myself barely able to walk. Hours after breakfast we took a horse car for the S. I. and found Bidgway & Cowie in the W. tower. To the latter I was introduced for the first time and had a talk of an hour or more with him. He was neither in address or appearance, at all as I had pictured him & showed little of that dashing, nervous energy which is so universally accredited to him. On the contrary he was quite slow & deliberate in movement, & very pleasant in conversation, a little too much too conscious self reliance perhaps, cropping out now & then. We next called on Prof. Baird in his room; he received



April 1874

1874  
April 24Washington; D.C. to Petrolum, West. Va.

was with much kindness but  
proprietor a poor collecting ground  
at Petrolum. After dining with  
Hessy & Ridgway we left  
W. in the 7.40 train. We passed  
Shooper ferry at 10 P.M. & although  
the night was cloudy we  
got quite a good view of the  
bold rugged scenery & then  
turned in. In Washington we  
saw numbers of *D. astiva*, *Pro-*  
*adon*, *Her. rufus*, & *Therinus*  
*carolinensis*.

---

April 25

Woke up this morning to find  
the train just running into  
Grafton, a most desolate place  
where we were obliged to wait  
half an hour for a freight train,  
the express not stopping at Petrolum.  
After a most execrable breakfast  
which the proprietor considered  
worth 75¢ we embarked on our  
"Hov freight" and how indeed  
we found it, its running  
time averaging 6 miles per hour.  
All day long the rain poured  
in torrents, and we passed  
the time in smoking, chatting  
and reading, especially the former.  
The country from Grafton to  
Petrolum (distance 80 miles) is  
to the eye of a New Englander,  
most unique. Straight ridges

1874

Grafton to Petrolemum, West Virginia.

April 25

~~rise~~ above the valleys to the height of 100 feet or more with their sides almost perpendicular, ~~but~~ showing more of that rugged variety & beauty of outline ~~so~~ characteristic of the N. H. hills, ~~It~~ and differing in another important feature, namely in the total absence of any of the coniferous trees. At one place indeed we did see a few white pines & hemlocks, but everywhere else the growth was entirely beech oak & other hard wood trees unknown to me. The sides of these ridges are excessively steep, ~~so~~ much so that every where one sees smooth slides where the woodcutters are in the habit of sliding down logs to the valley beneath. Rocks of any size are very scarce and there is hardly any underbrush or fallen logs, indeed were it not for the steepness of the slopes one might ride through the woods almost anywhere on horseback. Very few birds were seen all day. At one place we heard the song of the cardinal for the first time, at another North saw a ♂ Cy. cyanea & I saw near Grafton a Sandwich Car. sailing about over the ~~Thames~~ Arrived in P. at 5.20 & was warmly welcomed by S.



West Va April 1874

1874

Petroleum, West Va.

April 26 Cloudy & cold: this not I should say, about 40° Wind W. After breakfast took a walk down the railroad and saw a number of birds. *Cardinalis* ~~vis.~~ <sup>vis.</sup> seen in great abundance and ~~some~~ in full song. I saw also *Pipilo eryth.* *M. pecoris* ~~etc.~~ <sup>etc.</sup> *Sp. pusilla*, *Zon. albicollis*, *Progne subis* &c. R.D. saw three or four *T. ludovicianus*, *L. carolinensis* & a *Phoebastria carolin.* I shall defer a description of the country until I become more familiar with its details. Messrs. Fugate & Dean found a nest of *Lagotis fusca* this morning containing six eggs, every one of which was spotted, and several of them as much so as average specimens of *Contopus virens*. The nest was attached to the stem work under a bridge and differed but little in architecture, from Northern examples. The eggs were quite far ~~hard set on~~ advanced, perhaps a week or ten days. In the P.M. I went out just before sunset & heard a *T. mustelinus* in full song. The *Pipilos* are very abundant. The song of the *P.* differs not much from Mass examples but the chirp is totally different & continually decisive viz: it is a harsh two-geesh, very guttural & characteristic invariably of all I have seen.

1874

Petrolium; West Va

April 27. Clear warm & sunny. Clouded up towards night. We all started out after breakfast. I took the S. side of the creek & had hardly entered the woods before a Flycatcher jumped up from a fallen log & I knocked him over on the wing. Fairly in the woods I paused & listened in astonishment to the melody of strange & new bird notes that saluted me but soon got to work to unravel the mystery. By noon I returned with 17 birds, 8 *D. bicolor* (1 ♀ with egg ready for shell) 2 *P. carolinensis*, 1 ♀ *C. Virginianus*, 2 *Zen. carolinensis*, 2 *P. erythrop.* & *Say. fuscus*, & 1 *H. pilatus*. *Cardinalis* has no end of variations to its song & at present I am not sure of any: its chirp is exceedingly like that of *Cy. cyana*, *D. bicolor* reminds me much of *Cy. cristata* in motions. Its song is also like one of the blue jays & some, an extremely loud note repeated incessantly. It has also a peevish chirp & a Paradoxical che de de. *Z. carolinensis* is a most interesting bird. They are all paired, are rather shy, & show much conjugal affection. I wounded one & the other would not leave him but just as I was going to shoot again let by his side & cursed him with her bill. *P. carolinensis* has the note like one the "whew" of *P. carolinensis* song. *Sp. poealis* is excessively abundant and is its old familiar self in every respect. *S. pusilla harrisi*. An *Agelaius*



West Va April 1874

*phoeniceus* ~~that~~ sings behind the house in nearly exactly the same strain as our *Pipilo* at the N. *Amiscolus pygmaeus*? is abundant: Have noticed nothing peculiar in notes or habits. I think they breed in holes of the tall stubs as they are continually lighting on them. R. Dean brought in winter birds, the best 2 *Turdoides* which still persistently breeds now.

He also shot 2 *P. pallasi* & saw several *Juncos*. *Psittacus* <sup>cooperi</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>heads</sup> ~~are~~ said to be plenty in the woods here but are kept under by the hogs, which brutes are swarming about at large, everywhere. Most of the people here sided with the South in the late war. They are not unlike the M. backwoodsmen in appearance, averaging a trifle lighter in complexion perhaps, and with less fine physiognomy, but they are said to be far behind them in intellect: not more than our half can read or write. They travel about entirely on horseback the women with their babies in their arms; many of their horses are really fine looking animals, and are very sure footed. There is not a carriage road in this whole region, nothing but bridle paths

West Va. April 28-1874

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Apr. 28 Morning broke cloudy & raining  
hard. Saw the first *Tyrannus*  
*Carolinensis*. Rained all day and  
we kept close wintering &c. Pugsell  
went to Maintta by the morning  
train & has not yet returned.  
As the day closed the rain  
changed to snow and the air  
was extremely chilly. Hoegas kept  
up their merry chorus all night  
long in front of the house  
and I have heard a few Bufo  
Am. *Tamias striata* is especially  
abundant in the woods: its  
notes, its habits, are all entirely  
familiar but judging from a ♀  
shot by J. the white stripes  
are more abundant than in May  
specimens. *Cathartes aura* is  
said to have been over about  
here but is now seldom seen.

AP

Apr. 29 Clear with N. wind and very cold.  
About an inch of snow fell in  
the night and many of the hill  
tops were white as late as 10 A.M.  
although exposed to the sun's  
water also froze to the thickness  
of window glass. Ruth & I  
started off after breakfast I starting  
as before the S. side of Goose creek  
The day was a poor one for birds  
& I had to work hard for 17; the  
best *Thry. ludovic* 3 (at least), *P. carolin* 2



West Va. April 29 - 1874

3 *Parus car.*, 2 *Sciurus nov.* 1 *L. bicolor*  
 & 1 ♂ *Cardinalis*, *Sciurus novboracensis*  
 is quite abundant along the creek  
 & in notes &c. was exactly as at the  
 the plumage is however I think a  
 little peculiar. *P. cassida* has a harsh  
 hissing note and I heard a ♂ sing  
 for some time in a broken warbling  
 & I think practicing *Strasas*, *Thry.*  
*indovis* is very tame here, reminds  
 me of *G. aedon*; in fact in motions  
 I can see no difference; I saw one  
 hop into a robins nest with eggs  
 (found three nests of that bird) when  
 the owner appeared and *Thryothorus*  
 beat a hasty retreat: he has a most  
 singular & indescribable chirp, very loud.  
 Heard *Vireo solitarius* singing. Heard at  
 least a dozen different *L. carolinensis*  
 cooing. *Id.* commences with a ~~rather~~ rather  
 high note with rising inflection then  
 hoo hoo hoo ~~is~~ almost exactly  
 like the final two notes of *Bubo*  
*vir.* the bird while thus employed  
 usually sits on the top of a dead tree.  
 I watched six of them feeding together  
 on the ground. They run more  
 quickly than the domestic pigeon but  
 otherwise resemble them; on the wing  
 they can hardly be distinguished from  
*Col. virg.* except by size. I found a  
 nest of *Parus car.* but could not climb  
 to it: have heard only two notes yet  
 the passerine chirp noted last  
 winter & an abbreviation in both

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Tone of the *che de de* of *P. stricklandi*.  
*Scirurus auro.* & *Sith.* *intacta* two of  
each, an entirely familiar. *Pipilo*  
song does not differ appreciably the  
pattern note is characteristic of all.

Heard an entirely strange note  
from *Agelaius phoeniceus*. a harsh indiscern-  
ible monosyllable: all very in song.

*Quiscalus* is familiar in all its  
notes: that a & it proved typical  
genus. Saw a *D. aurora* & a ♂  
*Icterus baltimore* whose song was  
hardly recognizable, shorter than the  
N. bird: chatter the same. Saw also  
a *Gambetta flavipes* in a wet  
mowing field. *Lepus sylvaticus*  
I see every day in the woods & this  
morning caught a glimpse of *Aertomys*  
*monax*. While sitting down in a  
little gulch a flock of *Chaerula*  
*ulazgia*, at least 80 in all, passed  
over my head in a close body,  
flying towards the W. very swiftly  
and evidently migrating.

Apr. 30

Cold and cloudy. Commenced raining  
at 10 A.M. & rained till sunset when  
it cleared up. Off after breakfast,  
striking up Goose creek. Shot 15  
birds, the best 3 *M. ludovic*, 2 *Parus car.*  
1 *Cardinalis*, 1 *T. cedror* etc. Animals for  
the day were *Florida carolina*, *Trog. cedror*  
*Hel. erythrocapilla*, *Hel. vernivora*,  
*Vireo flavifrons*, *Picus puber*, *P. villosus*, *C. carolin*



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The Florida *carolina* I started from the river bank where it flew to the top of a hight oak. I found it very shy & could not obtain a shot. Next heard a *Scirurus nig*, whether *hicolor*, or not I am unable to say but think it must have been the other as I found them so abundant there yesterday. The song however was very different from at the N. though having the same general character: ~~its~~ alarm chirp was ~~exactly~~ identical. The *Cardinalis* sings almost as frequently as the *♂* & goes through all his variations. *Melospiza* ~~flavica~~ *flavica* is common has the familiar, liquid ~~note~~ song but in addition a note entirely new, a harsh hissing z—up. The harsh note of *A. phoeniceus* described on last page is peculiar to all (dozens) I have heard him. I was so unfortunate as to miss a good shot at a *Centurus Carolinus*, he was a woodpecker in every respect, nothing noticeable for actions or flight, note a raucous ~~craak~~ *craak*, almost like a frog. His rattling, tree trunk tapping was also peculiar, being rather feebler than in most of the family. Heard the song of *Parus Car.* I took it at first for an abnormal song of *Dend. virens*. it consisted of ~~four~~ *three* ~~notes~~ *notes*, the first high, the second several octaves higher, the third lower than the first.

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*Thry. ludov.* has occasionally the exact character of *T. adon* as I shot one to day in the act of making it; they utter a number of other notes none of which are as yet familiar to me. *Psalatryx* is quite familiar. *Turdus mustelinus* does not I think sing with so much vigor as in Mass. *Picus pubescens* & *villinosus* exhibit no peculiar features.

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May 1 Alternately cloudy & clear. Off after breakfast as usual & took 20 birds. The best *My. vinitatus* ♂, *H. virens* ♀, *I. virens* ♂, *Thry. ludov.* 7, *Cotyle sarripennis* ♂ & ♀, *C. Cardinalis* 3, *L. bicolor* 2 &c. The arrivals noted were *Vireo gilvus* sv, *V. olivaceus* sv, *I. latimons* sv. nov, *Pyrausta rubra* ♂, *Hydromela ludov.* 2, *I. virens* ♂, *My. vinitatus* ♂, *D. Blackburnia* ♂, *Cotyle sarripennis* ♂ & ♀, *My. crinitus* ♂, *H. virens* ♀.

Struck down the track this morning & found the country much better for collecting than any I have before seen. Birds are very silent and go much in flocks, as in fact, sparrows, warblers, *totinica* &c. sucking up the cotton. I was much surprised at finding two broods of young *Th. ludov.* able to fly. One brood got up all together in an open pasture, like a flock of quail & I made an easy double shot on



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them: the ♀ parent of this brood I shot also & found she was on the point of laying an egg, it being quite ready for the shell.

I heard the song of this bird to day for the first time; it is loud & one of the most faultlessly clear, that I know of: it consists of a note of two syllables repeated a number of times. The ordinary call note is twiddle repeated incessantly, also a chatter precisely like *S. audon*. I was much pleased on crossing a railroad bridge, at perceiving a pair of mallows which I instantly recognized as *C. surifunnis*; they are unmistakable, flight slower like *H. bicolor*, with single note repeated at rare interval, & much less than & lower than *C. riparia*'s. They had evidently selected the stone abutment under the bridge as a resting place for they continually passed in & out lighting on the projecting stones. After watching them a long time I shot both. Next I started a *Sedentarius* from a run & while pursuing him up a steep hill side, I heard a song new to me, a strong clear ~~variable~~ with the most emphasis on the last two syllables, like whee whee see-see; altogether it reminded me of *D. maculosa*'s. I soon discovered its author in a beautiful & very attractive! he

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looked alive, ~~strikingly~~ like *M. pusillus* that I saw near passing him by. My next novelty was an *P. virus* which flew across the track into a briary thicket where I pursued & shot him. He uttered not note & in motions reminded me of *Thimas* *Car.* While wrapping him up my eye caught a bird just alighting on a dry branch of a hunk, & instantly recognizing it as *Hed. virens* I dropped my chat & knocked it over: it proved a ♀. Heard again to day the song of *Parus* *Car.* it reminds me as before stated, much of that of *Dend. virens*, & consists of four measures.

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May 2

Cloudy as usual with occasional sprinklings in P.M. Off all the forenoon and took 14 birds, 2 *P. virus*, 1 *H. virens*, 1 *My. contratus*, 1 *S. ludovic.* 2 *Zen. Carolin.* 2 *Cotyle ferrugineus* &c. Arrivals for the day were, *Trochilus colubris* 1, *Dend. virens* g.c., *Ac. Cooperi* 1 ♀, *Turdus fasciatus*, *Phyaeph. whitensis*, *Pyraura rubra* was abundant & 4 were shot.

Collected over the same ground as yesterday, but found birds very scarce & silent. Saw two *Hed. virens* besides the one named & had a fair chance to observe them: they keep very low down & frequently hop about



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on the ground itself, carry the tail high and have somewhat the air of *Minio. varia*: like that bird they also ~~crawl~~ creep around the branches & tree trunks: the only note I have heard is a sharp chirp ~~and distinguished~~ from that of the water thrush.

The *Scimus ludovic* was in full song & I also heard its note several times before I fired: the latter seemed to me precisely like that of *novaboracensis* but the form is different though sufficiently near to suggest to me the author: it commences in nearly the same way, is nearly as hurried but lacks the beautiful crescendo termination: it may be represented by the following *pseur pseur per-sei-sei*. In actions I noticed nothing differing from that bird. I virus looks very small, especially when in thick brush; I took both that I shot to day for *D. formosus*: they carry the tail rather high & are very tame. Heard *Polioptila* sing: its effort reminds me of the cat bird's but is not so loud. Saw a number of *Cotyle vireyanus* but noticed nothing new. My *Myioid mitratus* was in full song & in the same place as the one heard yesterday: the song was precisely the same: it is perhaps a little nearer that of Ind. *Parus*, than *D. maculosa*; or rather it is that of

the last with the emphasis of the first. *Regulus calendula* is sparingly abundant do. *Zon. albicollis*. *Turdus mustelinus* does not sing with nearly the same vigor here as at the N. In the P.M. went out again and took 11 birds nearly all common, the best <sup>ex.</sup> *Cardinalis* & *Seiurus noveboracensis*.

Sunday  
May 3

Cloudy clearing up by sunset. Very warm. Spent the whole day in our Sanctum working over the birds shot yesterday writing, &c.

May 4

Cloudy of course but still & warm, a fair day for birds. Got started about 9 A.M. R.D. & I striking down the railroad. I shot ~~in~~ all 18 birds the best *C. formosus* ♂, *My. nitratus* 4 ♂, *H. vermivorus* ♂, *My. crinitus* ♂, *Cotyle perip.* 2 ♂, &c. Arrivals were *C. formosus* 2 ♂, *My. nitratus* g.a. *H. lunifrons* g.a., *Md. erythrocephalus* ♂. I saw altogether about 12 *My. nitratus*. They vary not at all individually in song. Their alarm chirp is very like that of *My. Canadensis*. Saw two *H. vermivorus* copulating & shot the ♂. Have not heard their song: they were as usual



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near the ground. They can be distinguished at once by their almost unvarying habit of carrying the tail up. The *Oporornis* was perfectly silent, shy and while flitting ahead of me hit invariably on the ground. I recognized it at once by the peculiar marking of the head. Shot several of my *M. mitratus* from the top of high oaks 100 ft above the ground & observed they often sang from such situations! They are very restless in habit & not only restless but actually shy; indeed I think I chanced on half a mile before getting a shot

May 5 Cloudy all day. Started down the track after breakfast and took about a dozen birds the best *Pyrranga aetiva* ♂, *Centurus Carolinus* ♀, *Myi. mitratus* 3 ♂, *Hel. chrysoptera* ♂, *Seiurus ludovic.* Arrivals were *I. pusillus* ♂, *D. carulea* ♂ (R. D.) *D. carulescens* ♀, *Py. aetiva* ♂, *Hel. chrys.* ♂. *Pyrranga aetiva* was among the tops of some high oaks, unobserved exactly *P. rubra*, launching up occasionally after a fly, was quite shy & perfectly silent; it looked much larger than *rubra* however & the absence of the black wings ~~betrayed~~ it at once

Heard the *H. chrysoptera* sing over  
~~exactly~~ as at the N. it proved  
 however the curious I saw with  
 white separating the black of the  
 throat from the base of the lower  
 mandible. The Centurus uttered  
 the same raucous creak as the  
 one previously noted, was very  
 shy, but perfectly woodpecker like  
 in all its motions. Shot also a ♂  
*Picus villosus* much smaller than  
 at the N. They are not uncommon  
 as I see one or more every day.

May 6 Clear and very warm at noon,  
 The first really fair day that we  
 have had. Started down the track  
 after breakfast and struck up into  
 "Oil cake run". The woods were  
 very lovely in the clear warm  
 sun light, and the birds in full  
 song. I took 13 specimens, the best  
*D. carolinensis* ♂, *Op. formosus* 2 ♂, *H.*  
*arviculus* 4 ♂, *My. cinereus* 2 ♂,  
*H. chrysoptera* ♀, *Thry. ludovicianus* ♀,  
*D. carolinensis* ♂.  
 Arrivals were, *O. formosus* g. a. ~~cinereus~~  
 Heard four songs new to me. Saw about 8  
*Op. formosus*; they keep almost entirely  
 on the ground when they walk about  
 among the leaves, are partial to thickets  
 shro of motion but do not at all  
 remind me of *O. agilis*. The alarm  
 notes of this species is with difficulty



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to be distinguished from that of *My. vireator* & *H. vesumorus*; it is exactly like the chuck of *Tamias striata*; that of the two latter birds I cannot yet separate. The song of *C. formosus* was a rich trill to me. It is a rich liquid trill, exceeding by like that of *T. Philadelphia* with the preliminary notes, notes, omitted; the bird usually sings from a low branch of some oak or from the topmost twig of a bush pile. Heard the full performance of *D. virens* & it a most remarkable one; commencing with a series of loud whistles, a scolding chatter follows, then a single very loud bell like note: it is at times ventriloquial to a very large degree. Was very much pleased at getting *D. carolinensis*. Mr. Deam had warned me that his song was very near that of *Pando* but I was not prepared for so exceedingly close a resemblance & shot it from a high oak only because I noticed its *Dendroica* like motions & suspected its identity. *M. vireator* keeps more among the tree tops than I at first supposed. It is fond of singing a few times in a place then spreading its wings & tail it sails to another tree without a single flap: it also frequently jets & flutters its large tail somewhat like *Sith. ruticilla*, which bird I am

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inclined to think it bears nearly  
as close natural affinities to as to  
*Myiodynastes*. *Hel. vernivorus* is quite  
unique; unlike anything else. It  
keeps almost entirely on the ground,  
walks instead of hopping, is shy,  
restless & petulant, the males  
continually chasing one another  
through the woods. It sometimes  
mounts to a short distance above  
the ground winding about the  
trunks & branches exactly like  
*M. varia*. Its song which I heard  
to day for the first time, is a  
weak, feeble trill so exactly  
resembling that of *Spizella*  
*socialis* that had I not been  
within a yard or two of the  
bird & shot it in the very act  
& I should not have hazarded  
recording it.

May 7

Clear still & warm, a model day  
for collecting. Ruth intended starting  
for home yesterday but received  
a telegram at the last moment  
granting another week, so we all  
started out together this morning  
as usual. I took my favourite  
ground up "Athen cave run" &  
made a good day of it bringing  
in 24 birds, the best *D. caerulea* 6♂,  
*My. nigratus* 3♂, *O. formosus* 5♂ & 2♀, *H.*  
*vernivorus* 5♂, *Hel. chrysop.* 5♂ & 2♀,



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Arrivals were Dend. pica (♂ & ♀ paired, & prob. suited for the summer shot in high oak woods). Emp. minimus, one; Dend. caerulea g. a, about, Regulus calendula, only one seen, one prob. gone by, Lani. borealis still about.

The woods were very pleasant this morning butterflies are coming out in force. I see no new ones, but have noticed several skippers unknown to me. Saw also the green cicindilla & a most active lizard of large size than I saw nearly as fast as a squirrel. Dend. caerulea was very about. I several times heard them singing at once; their song is so exactly like the divided variation of Pamph. l. that I am more certain of it; in addition to the animal warbler like, they have the harsh note of D. coronata which I had previously supposed peculiar to that bird. They keep uniformly high up in the tall trees. Saw at least 6 Dend. Blackburnian most of them ♂ and singing. My. crinitus is a common bird in the oak woods; I shot them this morning & heard others; they have in addition to the peculiar loud whistle, a harsh chatter rather loud & peculiar; they are not very shy & are fond of sailing from one tree to another in a way that reminds me of Perisoreus Canadensis. Saw a pair of S. ludovicianus & witnessed the courting of the ♂. he dived round her a few moments with quivering

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wings, then obtaining her consent they performed the sexual act; he sang as before described; the alarm note I cannot distinguish from that of *monticola*; it may be a trifle fuller & less sharp; in all their motions & habits they are identical, though *indivisius* seems more fond of rocky streams while the other (though I suppose most of them are migrants here) is found on the muddy margin of Goose Creek. Among some high oaks, found a *Mel. erythro.* and watched him surely when he took to a high dead tree top and kept so persistently on the opposite side from me, that after walking around it some twenty minutes or more, I was fain to give him up & so left him there. R. D. confirms my observation on the song of *T. veranivorus*; he heard numbers to day & likes it as I did to that of *Spiz. socialis*. Some of the ravens are very picturesque; the water however in all the streams though cold & good, shows a peculiar light ~~opaque~~ indigo blue color so strong that in fouts 6 ft. deep it is quite opaque; the bottom undistinguishable; Many of the forest trees are commencing to leaf out; I notice ~~an~~ <sup>an</sup> ~~entirely~~ <sup>entirely</sup> new to me indeed the only familiar ones are the



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oaks, beech, hemlock (the only coniferous tree here) maple and willow. The "red bud" is in full blossom and is a very beautiful thing. Wake robins are abundant everywhere and in full bloom: in many places in the low lying thickets the ground is carpeted with them. I also notice what I take to be a species of the same genus with red instead of white petals. Numbers of *Antrostomus vociferans* were heard last night by Mr. Ingersoll and they must be abundant here though we have started none in the woods as yet. The weather is now delightful, cold nights and very warm in the middle of the day.

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May 8 Clear; morning cold, but this at noon prob. as high as 80°. A boil on my knee was so painful this morning that I was obliged to spend the day in the house. R.D. & Ingersoll went out as usual & brought in the good assortment of warblers &c. but nothing new. I heard a *Sturnella magna* in the fields across the creek for the first time. His long drawn plaintive whistle was entirely typical. In the forenoon skinned 8 birds shot yesterday. In P.M. wrote letters &c.

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May 9

Clear & very warm. Ther. prob. about 85° at noon. My knees was so much worse this morning that I determined leaving for home by the evening train.

~~Spent~~ all the forenoon with P.D. packing our birds. Ingersoll went out for an hour or two & brought in a Contopus virens; he saw several others as well as a pair of Cyanospiza cyanea, a 6 of which I heard singing at daybreak this morning. Last evening I heard a quail whistling. Bob. White in the field behind the house. Also a beautiful warbling Carpodacus like song which I refer with a ? to Icterus spurius. Antrostomus vociferus were out in force last evening and several could be heard at once. The forest trees are all putting out their leaves and the woods have now that beautiful delicate green peculiar to the first few days of their resurrection.

At 6.50 P.M. we did good bye to Petroleum, taking the accommodated train to Laurel junction where we were to hit the express East. Sitting on the platform behind the depot at this place, we smoked our cigars & enjoyed that quiet sunset hour to the utmost. Perhaps we saw perhaps the most beautiful ~~rich~~ rich scene that my eyes have rested upon since leaving home.



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a brawling mountain stream full fifty feet below us walled in by hills so steep & high, that the cut through them formed rather a canon than a valley, add to this a large herd of cows standing up to their knees in the water, a horse laden with two wild unkempt looking W. Va. boys, just emerging from the ford and struggling up the steep bank on the further side, & my picture is complete & perhaps a typical one of this whole section of country. But the birds: as the slanting rays of the setting sun streaming through the gaps in the Western divide <sup>in places</sup> tinged the floating mists with a beautiful rosy hue, in others where the beams fell more directly, there was strong a light that that smallest insect was discernible at hundreds of yards distance in the still clear air, the chorus of "Cardinal" voices was swelled to the utmost & we heard many of our latter day friends for the last time & to the best possible advantage. The Cardinals as usual were most prominent & one of them was really the finest specimen that I have heard. On the hill opposite Burral chats were uttering their grotesque songs, and the wood thrushes could be heard on all sides. Hearing from the valley

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below, the same song noted at  
Petroleum, we descended (I with  
much pain & difficulty) and  
discovered its author as I expected  
in *Icterus spurius*. The song is  
loud & the most beautiful by all  
odds, that I have heard here,  
possessing that plaintive sweetness  
so characteristic of the song of *Poo-  
thiaea* which indeed it resembles  
very closely in every way. The bird  
after singing for some time from  
the top of a lofty sycamore, dove  
down into a clump of low  
bushes when I had a good  
chance to watch him! his long tail  
which he kept continually jerking  
about, gave him a very different  
look from *I. Baltimore*, and  
his note was so like the note  
of *Aeg. phoeniceus* that we both agreed  
we could see no difference; his colors  
were conspicuous & unmistakable.

By this time the sun had set,  
& the gloom of twilight was  
fast creeping over the valley;  
the clank of the cow bells began  
to have a drowsy sound, the  
last red bird was just finishing  
his song & with a few good night  
chirps to his mate became silent,  
when suddenly a whip poor will  
struck up from the wood below  
us, a bat whirled by on flickering  
wing, the shrill pipe of the hylas?



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swelled into a full chorus  
 & the transition from day to  
 night was complete. The whistle  
 of an locomotive & the reverberating  
 rush of the train warned us  
 that we <sup>had</sup> seen the last of West Va.  
 & after putting our own trunks aboard  
 P. & O. R. R. fashion, we were soon  
 asleep in our berths. I must not  
 omit to note that one of Antrostomus  
 heard this evening regularly finished  
 his song by ~~omitting~~ <sup>omitting</sup> the preliminary  
 syllable on the last half dozen  
 notes. Thus, poor will - poor will &c.  
 & single chor. ~~position~~ <sup>position</sup> was heard here.

May 10

Clear, warm & in fact a summer day.  
 Ther. at noon about 85°. ~~At~~ <sup>At</sup>  
 this morning to find the train  
 running down the E. slope of  
 the mountains through a rather more  
 cultivated country. Harpers ferry  
 was soon reached. The scenery  
 was here decidedly the finest we  
 had encountered, though still lacking  
 that rugged variety of outline &  
 wildness of feature that makes our  
 N. E. mountains so grand, the hills  
 rose like artificial walls on either side  
 to a vast height. From the perpendicular  
 face of these opposite cliff (as the  
 train stopped for a moment) came  
 the rapidly enunciated two de dee  
 two de dee two de dee of Thrashers  
 & I suppose the little fellow must have

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had a nest somewhere in the  
crevasses of the rocks. *Stelgidopteryx*  
*serripennis* was in abundance  
and numbers of *Cathartes* were  
circling about the tops of the  
cliffs. By 11 A.M. we reached the  
Relay house 10 miles S. of Baltimore  
where we were obliged to  
disembark & await a 9.15 evening  
train. The country from Harpers  
ferry to Washington is a the  
finest for collecting that I have  
seen but there are few points  
where one could locate as the  
country is almost entirely unsettled.  
Just outside of Washington I saw  
as many as four *Mel. erythrophoda*  
in the open fields, flying  
from one isolated tree to another  
as the train approached; Buzzards  
& turtle doves were also frequent  
& I had a passing view of a  
sparrow sitting on a little knoll,  
which I took to be *Empidonax* *aurum*.  
At Relay we had a good dinner  
& lounged away the afternoon &  
evening. My knee is very painful  
& gives me perfect agony at  
times. Birds noted here were  
*Cardinalis* *l.*, *Coph. bicolor*, *Thry.*  
*ludovicianus* *Stelg. serripennis* (in hundreds  
about & under the stone abutments  
of the B. & O. bridge). Taking the train  
for Baltimore we were jolted across  
the city in a transportation coach,



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& after waiting an hour embarked on the train for N. Y. retiring at once to our berths.

May 11 Woke this morning as the cars were running into Jersey city. Missing the transportation coach were obliged to hire a hack across N. Y. to the Grand Central depot where I took the 8.10 train for the New Haven road, R. D. remaining behind to look up our trunks which had not arrived. Passed quite a comfortable day in the cars getting into Boston by 8.15 P.M. The only ornithological note worthy of record was a *Mel. erythrocephalus* 10 m. E. of Worcester. *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii* has been common all the way from Harpers ferry to Boston; at one place as many as thirty started off from a small pool near the track. There is a very fine looking The region about Westboro Mass is a very fine looking one for Woodcock & grouse, with a capital snipe meadow winding for miles near the railroad. Found Charles at the depot & at the house all well & a pleasant surprise in meeting Henry H. there. He stayed all the evening & we talked over affairs to our hearts content. Discovered the face of the country in Mass.

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almost exactly as I left it. No  
have started (except a few lilacs  
in sheltered places) the grass  
only just starting, ~~but~~ & altogether  
the aspect of about the 15 April.  
Under these conditions the arrival  
of the birds possesses this year  
an unusual interest & as I  
have always maintained, ~~with~~  
a certain reasonable margin, they  
go more by date than season.

Thus I found *Icterus belinensis* in  
abundance; I never knew him  
here before until the cherry trees  
were in bloom but ~~as yet~~ not  
one has shown a blossom. I also  
hear from my window *Vireo gilvus*,  
*Dend. aestiva*, & *Prog. aedon*.

May 12 Clear & warmer than yesterday. Ther.  
at noon perhaps 65°. Our trunks  
arrived to day & we unpacked  
our birds in rather a demoralized  
condition. *I. aestiva* is building  
in the same honeysuckle bush occupied  
by ~~the~~ pair (unquestionably the same) last  
year & is constantly quarreling with a  
*Spiz. socialis* with ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> ~~few~~ white tail  
feather, which I distinctly remember  
as a companion of my last spring's  
confinement & solitude. ~~My knee~~  
is still very painful, the boil growing  
steadily larger.



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May 13 Clear & very warm. Ther. 85°. Apparently the transition day from spring to summer. The rapidity with which the leaves unfolded is remarkable. & trees which this morning were bare by evening were covered with a drapery of green. Now but the earliest, horn chestnuts, willows &c. have however started. In P.M. took a ride & found birds plentiful. Many from their abundance I suspect have been here some time so in the following list will return to characterize them as arrivals. *Senecus* nov. 1; *Tyrannus* (C. abdt; *Vireos* gilvus & flavifrons abdt; *Pol. virginus* abdt; *Seth. ruticilla* 20; *Turdus fuscescens* 1; *Hir. lunifrons* several; *G. trichas* abdt; *Hydromela ludov.* 20. The grosbeaks I saw in front of Dr. Mack's place, two beautiful males, each trying to outdo the other in song. The woods are still as bare & desolate looking as in winter. ~~As I was sitting at my open window~~

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May 14 Clear & very warm with S. wind. Sitting at my open window this morning, a flock of seven or eight *A. cedrorum* passed over the yard. I have never seen them so early in May before. In P.M. took a ride up through

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Waverly, and saw near Birds found  
a very handsome albino *Bubo*  
*migratorius*, which had the entire  
head & neck white or nearly so;  
the remaining parts the normal  
color. The boil on my knee has  
been discharging for three or four  
days but it is still very painful  
inasmuch that I am barely able  
to move about at all.

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May 15 Clear with cool E. wind. I spent  
the A.M. in the house writing &  
reading. About noon Henry H. dropped  
in to show me his new Fox G. loader,  
and stayed two or three hours taking  
drives with me. In the afternoon  
had my horse harnessed and took  
a short drive around Fresh P.  
spending an hour or two in  
the wood path along the edge of  
the Pine Swamp listening to the  
birds of which I heard several  
old favourites. The Tawny Thrushes  
were in abundance but as is  
usual on their first appearance,  
were silent with the exception  
of their several monosyllabic notes.  
Out on the broad green meadows  
to the E. the bobolinks were holding  
high carnival & I heard both  
species of rails at intervals.  
In the thickets along the brook a *Vireo*  
*alabamensis* occasionally jerked out



May 1874

his quaint ditty & a remarkably fine performer he was too, one of the best I ever heard. This season is certainly, ornithologically speaking, a perfect paradox. *Dend. coronata* is still abundant and numbers of *Scot. ferrugineus* are still with us, while most of the summer birds seem to be here. I saw the same albino Robin; in the same place as yesterday. I had rather a better view of him to day & as nearly as I could make out, he has a perfectly white ring around his neck with the head & throat blotched conspicuously with the same color. Possibly it is imagination but he seems to me nearly one third larger than the typical bird. ~~Appropos~~, it has just occurred to me that I saw in precisely the same place last season, a bird with much white about the back & scapulars & this may possibly be the same still further metamorphosed or perhaps one of its offspring returned to the spot of its nativity. On the way back called in at the Vestibls for a few minutes & saw them both. They informed me that there was a good flight of Snipe last week, the birds remaining on the meadows from May 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> one man killing seven on the former day.

May 1874

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May 18 A most lovely May morning, but cloudy & rainy afternoon. After breakfast had my horse harnessed & drove up to ~~Black~~ meadow where I spent a pleasant hour listening to the birds. Saw several new arrivals, Myioid. pusillus, <sup>(Audubon's Swainson's)</sup> Dend. maculosa, D. stricta (usual) and Contopus borealis. Yesterday I saw the first Sprochilus colubris. D. coronatus is still here and it seems strange to see them associated with such birds as D. stricta, from which they are ordinarily separated in the migration by an interval of a week or more. Heard also a single Coccozus AmB! (I am not quite positive of my ability to distinguish the notes) The Contopus lives in the old haunt at Waverly oaks & at intervals of a half minute or so uttered his gluck - phibeair or simply phibeair, from the top of an ancient sycamore. (Description of notes taken on the spot) On the Newtown Road saw my albino robin in the same place again. The apple trees are fast putting out their leaves, the shad bush is in bloom in the woods, as are the cherry & pear trees in the garden. The larks are still in full blast and the bird chorus is now nearly arrived at its full perfection. How short is spring after all our winter longings for its arrival.



May 1874

At the Eastern end of the willows  
 heard a rustling in the bushes  
 & pulling up my horse quickly,  
 saw a pair of quail so near  
 me that I was tempted to  
 strike at them with my whip;  
 watched them for some time  
 till they finally walked over  
 a low stone wall and disappeared.

Their tameness not to say  
 chimpiness at this season is  
 quite remarkable. They bob white  
 of the male will be heard in  
 a few days more. In the  
 afternoon saw a pair of Herons  
 breeder copulating, the female  
 sitting on the eave of our barn  
 and enduring the attentions  
 of the male more than a dozen  
 times in succession, he uttering  
 continually a rattling note  
 resembling that produced by  
 drawing a small stick across  
 the bars of a fence, or a watchman's  
 rattle turned slowly.

Sunday  
 May 24

Cloudy and warm. Have spent  
 my days during the past week  
 principally in reading and writing  
 being still laid up by my knee  
 which although the evil has quite  
 mended, is still very stiff and  
 lame. The season is now at its  
 very briliest, pear & apple trees in  
 full blossom, the cherry trees getting

just a little passé. Friends who have collected a little along report birds rather scarce this season. Goodale was out I think about the 19<sup>th</sup> and took two Lind. Castanea both ♂. *D. stricta* is not as abundant as usual though I hear their full listless songs occasionally in the garden. Yesterday I heard the first *Cyanospiza* and *Contopus virens* though both were seen some time since in adjoining towns.

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May 26 Clear with S. wind & rather warm. Nat. tem. 70°. One of the most beautiful days of the season. Henry Henshaw came out yesterday & spent the night & this morning proving so fine we decided to try the birds together. Started immediately after breakfast and stopped first at the foot of the Mowley hill where Henry killed 2 ♂ *Cont. borealis*, 3 *P. rubra* 3 *My. ludoviciana*. I shot a pair of *Cotyle riparia* and watched one of them for some time as it sent the sand out in showers from a hole it had commenced digging and seeing the use its wings in the operation as it gave them a vigorous first way then the sand flew out. He next drove up into the "willows" where we



May 1874

found a few of the *N. migrants* still remaining. I shot him entirely, Henry remaining in the buggy. Took 5 *My. pusillus*, 3 *S. norbor.* & a few commoner species. Saw quite a number of *My. Canadensis* & shot a pair. I also shot in Waverly a very fine *Po. Bathus* which I shall mount. Got back at 2 P.M. after having had a most pleasant day with my friend and the first shoot with him for nearly two years. At about 4 P.M. he started into Boston where he found a telegram awaiting him & will leave for Denver tomorrow morning.

May 28

Clear but very warm. Started off ~~in~~ my buggy immediately after breakfast for a few birds. I spent the forenoon in the willows with rather poor success, taking about ten birds & most of them common, the best 3 or 4 *My. Canadensis* (for mounts). All the *My. pusillus* were gone but I saw a few *S. norboracensis* & heard the ♂ sing. While walking along quietly in the road was attracted by a surprisingly shrill squeaking and creeping up to the spot discovered a number of shrews chasing each other about the trunks of two large willows occasionally running up their stems

to the height of 4 or 5 feet then  
 returning to the ground appearing  
 and disappearing in numerous  
 holes among the leaves with  
 marvelous quickness & agility; many  
 of them were scarcely  $\frac{1}{4}$  grown &  
 I saw frequently 6 or 7 in sight at  
 once. I estimated the whole colony  
 at about a dozen. Whether they  
 were fighting or at play I could  
 not decide, but thought the latter.  
 On the way back caught my  
 albino robin in a rather safe  
 place than usual and getting  
 out my gun shot him as  
 he sat in a maple tree over  
 the road and got off without  
 any trouble. Upon dissecting  
 him found that from some  
 previous injury his sternum  
 was crushed over to one side  
 giving his body a deformed appearance  
 though he was otherwise in  
 good flesh & apparently healthy.

May 29 Clear & cool with E. wind. H. A.  
 Purdie came out in P.M.  
 and at 6 O'clock we started  
 in my buggy for Concord where  
 we arrived at 9 spending much  
 time on the way stopping to  
 listen to the birds &c. A little  
 after sundown the whip-poor-will  
 struck up on all sides & at



Concord May 30 - 1874

Sandy found snoring on near the road I got out and tried to shoot him but after firing once at him on the wing & another time at a clod of earth through mistake, I had to give it up: when within a few rods a chuck may be plainly heard, occasionally interpolated between the syllables, and once we heard him give a succession of about a dozen very loud chucks without singing at all. Between Waltham & Lincoln we heard a number of quail and I should judge it might be a good country for them in Oct. (Heard the first note of the Q May 28 for first time) After a good supper at the Middlers we strolled down Monument St. as far as J. Lincolns house, enjoying the still moonlight night & listening to the whistlers. Returning to the hotel I found Reed whom I met there last winter and talked a half hour or more with him.

May 30 Clear and very warm. Getting an early breakfast we started for home at about 1. Stopped first at the meadow near Bacchus where we quickly discovered a Cot. Turnstone singing from a tall weed stalk; shooting him.

Concord May 30-1874 201

another (a ♀) started near me  
and lit and welking her up  
I shot her on wing getting  
fine specimens of both. We afterwards  
heard another ♂ but could not  
start him. The song is very  
faint & may be perfectly  
represented by the syllables  
st - lip repeated at intervals  
of ten seconds or more. They  
have also a chuck very like  
that of P. savanna. Their  
flight as they rise is fully as  
undulating as that of Chrysomitris  
trichis, & they usually go not  
more than 20 yds. at a time.

They are not shy & when  
singing may be fairly shot but  
if pursued shrill like a mouse  
& in very close. I did get in  
the killed woods when I  
commenced an onslaught on  
the tanager getting 11 in all,  
one of them a male with  
plumage of nearly equal green  
& yellow like the adult in  
August. Saw a pair copulating,  
& on a number of occasions  
the ♂ pursuing his mate through  
the trees singing most beautifully  
& occasionally uttering a single  
very mellow note like a  
certain one in Vireo olivaceus'  
song. Heard ~~two~~ a My. Can.  
in a swamp near Sandy P.



June - 1874

when I noted one June 17-74, I think he will remain to breed. *D. striata* is still abundant and I saw one *S. nuber*. Found two nests of *D. Pennsylvanic* one nearly finished. Reached home at 1.30 after a very pleasant day.

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June 2 Clear and cool. Getting an early supper I started off in my wagon at 6.30 P.M. to try for a whiff of will. Drove up through the willows and tied my horn in the scrub oaks beyond, when I waited till nearly 8 o'clock without success. Was however amply repaid by witnessing the close of a June day in the woods. As the sun went down the very began to be heard on all sides and a little later *Sciurus arctophilus* was going up in all directions and his beautiful warble which I have always considered so rare a note was everywhere heard over the woods. I think however that like the *Emp. minimus* each individual goes up usually but once; it is a sort of evening hymn with him; a prayer to heaven for protection during the night, which over, he composes himself for rest. This exquisite note is however marred by the repetition once or twice, of the ordinary song, which

rather I believe, no one can hear  
 long without to say the least getting  
 tired of it. As it grew darker I  
 could hear some animal, probably  
 a rabbit, cracking through the  
 underbrush. The veery ceased his  
 song and could be heard in all  
 directions flying about over the woods  
 uttering his queer notes. He seemed  
 quite at home in the darkness;  
 indeed I always suspected him  
 of a more or less nocturnal disposition.  
 I now heard a note entirely new  
 to me; a loud whistle, who-who-ho.  
 it was no owl of my acquaintance  
 and I should have guessed a  
 raccoon (I have never heard one) had  
 it been possible here. On the way  
 home I heard two whippoorwills  
 below the willows but it was  
 too dark to follow them.

June 3 Clear & cool. After breakfast drove  
 up to the Warren road & to my  
 great delight found *Mel. chrysophaea*  
 there, shooting a fine adult male &  
 hearing two others. Took in all  
 12 birds, all common, *D. virens* ♂,  
*Coc. erythrop.* ♀, *P. rubra* ♂, &c. The  
 migrants are staying very late as  
 I saw both *Cardus Swanstoni* &  
*D. striata*; the latter left in masses  
 there days ago. Hearing a ♂  
*Hydromus ludovicianus* singing I pursued



June 3 - 1874

Wattham

Woodcock & young

him a short distance when he suddenly flew into a half finished nest and settled down as if sitting on eggs. While forcing my way through some thick bushes at the head of the run I flushed a very large woodcock directly under my feet: she flew about ten paces then dropping, commenced to beat the ground with her wings, & uttering a whining noise like a young puffy. Looking carefully among the leaves I soon discovered a young bird, about the size of a newly hatched chicken, crouched among the leaves: it allowed me to grasp it with my hand before moving but no sooner was it caught than it set up a plaintive peeping which immediately started up three others, which scuttled off at a great pace, spreading their incipient wings like so many ostriches, & likewise peeping loudly. The old bird now came running prettily over the ground but would not approach nearer than two rods though she showed much concern. Relinquishing my little timberdoodle he started off after his fellows & I left them. Heard two songs which were new to me but may have both been abnormal notes of common birds. Saw a Buteo Pennsylvanicus, too distinctly for any possible doubt of identity.

June 5 Started off in my team after  
 breakfast and tied my horse  
 in Wellington's lane, E. Lex. Shot  
 during the forenoon 12 birds  
 the best C. C. Am. 3, H. sufficaps,  
 Six of the timber run for my  
 mounted collection. Found a  
 nest of *D. auctua* 3 eggs & 1 of *M. pacoris*,  
 & several nests of *Mimus car.* One  
 of the latter I took & laid on  
 a stone wall intending to take  
 it ~~as~~ I drove by the place  
 but when we were afterwards  
 I stopped for it, I found two  
 of the eggs broken open apparently  
 by some bird, but as they con-  
 tained large embryos. The contents  
 was untouched. *Coccyzus Am.*  
 is by far the commonest of the  
 cockhens here this year. I am  
 very sure of the difference of their  
 notes, now. That of C. Am. is a  
 long hoarse rather or sometimes  
 a deep low like cooing in notes  
 of one syllable coo, coo, coo, coo, coo.  
 The other has a softer coo of more  
 less than two & frequently as many  
 as four syllables, coo-coo-coo-coo; coo-  
 coo-coo-coo, and this is I think its  
 only note. Saw a *Chaetura* break off  
 a large twig & carry it in its bill  
 a half mile or so when it (the bird)  
 dropped into a chimney. Heard a  
 single *D. striata* this evening. The forest  
 trees are still only scantily clothed with leaves.



June 8 - 1874

June 8

Snake's power of charming

Clear & warm. The weather for the past three or four days has been quite hot & the oaks &c. are now in nearly full leaf. After breakfast drove up to the Warren "sum" where I tied my horse and struck through the woods to the West for a mile or two. Shot only 2 birds the last a ♂ *Hel. chrysophra*, & a *D. Penn.* & *Cont. virens* for mounting. *H. chrysop.* has sometimes three notes (exclusive of the preliminary one) more commonly two & occasionally only one: its song cannot be heard much over 100 yds. Although when you are near it seems very loud. *Contopus virens* has no note that can be called under my definition, a song, as I shot the ♀ uttering the pho, phoee. Witnessed this morning one of Nature's tragedies: while walking quietly along the edge of a small meadow encircled by heavy woodland, I was attracted to the edge of the bushes by a feeble rattling note very like the chatter of *Trogl. aedon*. Walking quietly up to a clump of raspberry bushes whence the sound proceeded, I found myself within a yard of a *Turdus fuscus* that was acting in a very strange manner, hopping backwards & forwards between two twigs with drooping & upraised wings & tail, & often & panting mouth,

begin

and a generally dispirited & feeble look. I thought at first that it was dancing around the ♀ but could detect no other bird in the vicinity. As I watched it, it seemed every moment to grow weaker, its hops became shorter, its chatter fainter and it fairly tottered on its perch. I now took a step forward & was about to grasp it in my hand, when it observed me for the first time, instantly took flight & alighted some twenty yards off, where it gave its plumage a shake, uttered a <sup>where</sup> ~~where~~ expression of the (to my imagination) utmost relief & taking wing again disappeared in the dense foliage. I next sought an explanation of the mystery & parting the bushes at my feet discovered the nest of the bird containing two eggs one of which was just disappearing down the mouth of a large milk adder (*Coluber eximius*) whose hideously blotched & banded coils lay in & around the nest. ~~But~~ He seemed to be in quite a lethargic state as I had to poke him quite forcibly with my ramrod before he would disgorge the egg (which was quite unincubated) and then suffered himself to be struck quite <sup>hardly</sup> ~~forcefully~~ before he would leave the nest. This case



Notes of the American cuckoos  
June 1874

presents quite a curious problem. The thrush was beyond a question in a fascinated & semi-unconscious condition but was the snake intentionally bringing his power to bear on her? I think not, for she was within easy striking distance all the time that I watched her, & besides a snake of that size (~~circumference~~ as large as a man's forefinger) could hardly have swallowed so large a bird.

June 9 Clear & hot. After breakfast took a turn up over "the farm" & got in by noon with 10 birds, 2 *Coc. erythrop.*, 1 *C. Am.*, 2 *Cant. virens*, 1 *Hal. ruficap.*, 1 *Cyanos. cyaneus*. I settled the difference in the cuckoos' notes to day beyond a doubt & am now sure of them. The difference in the cooing is as described on p. 205. *C. erythrop.* has however also a preliminary *cuc cuc cuc*, &c. ~~etc~~ very like the other bird but faster, & a little softer & less guttural. Both sexes of both species use all the notes so the bird can hardly be said to have a love song. Birds are breeding very late this season. I found two nests of *Seth. ruticilla* to day not quite finished, & also one of *Cant. virens*. Heard my

Jan 12 - 1874

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old friend *Coast. borealis* in  
Mt. Auburn. Got also a nest  
of *Cy. cristata* with 2 eggs.

Last Sunday I drove over to  
see H. A. Purdie & he took me  
to see a young <sup>gentleman</sup> ~~field~~ by name J. <sup>Ward</sup> ~~Ward~~  
who had two broods of *Scops asio*  
In one the parents were both red  
& the three young also of the same  
color. The other brood of four were  
all gray with a red mother (not  
taken) I bought one of the young  
& it is now doing well: although  
not fully fledged it feeds itself  
tearing up & devouring small birds  
&c. when put in its cage.

June 12 Cloudy & misty with heavy thunder  
showers in the evening. In P.M.  
drove up to Rock meadows where I  
listened in hopes of hearing the  
marsh wrens, but in vain. I cannot  
find one anywhere this season.  
Drove out through Prospect St. & tied  
my horse near the top of the hill.  
The bushes & grass were saturated with  
moisture & I was soon wet through  
but was however amply repaid by  
a quite extraordinary run of luck in  
finding nests. My first find was  
a *Coc. erythrops* 4 eggs; the female sat  
rather close & when started off gave utter-  
ance to the usual notes, prefacing them  
by a guttural *wo-r-ratteroo* which may be



peculiar to this species. I next  
 took two nests of *D. discolor* one  
 containing 4 the other 5 eggs all well  
 advanced. The former of the two  
 was built quite near the spring where  
 Henry H. & myself hunched, one hot June  
 day years ago, the latter in the very  
 run where we that same day discovered  
 our first nest, & I firmly believe it is  
 the self same pair of birds. The females  
 of both nests sat rather close & their  
 mates put in an appearance at the  
 first alarm. Both bird chirping very  
 like *D. aestiva* & titting their tails  
 apprehensively. Neither of these nests  
 were as deep as usual & one was  
 lined largely with feathers. I found  
 also near the same place a nest of  
*D. Pennsylv.* built in a barberry bush  
 & begin to think they prefer them  
 to hazel as I have found several so  
 this season. The ♀ allowed me to  
 almost touch her before she would  
 leave the nest; it contained one young  
 bird, 2 eggs ready to hatch & one abortion  
 one. I found next two *Har. rufes*  
 4 eggs each, a *Spiz. pusilla* in a  
 barberry bush (some 15 inch. above the  
 ground) with young, & several *Minus*  
*car.* one with young. *Har. rufes*  
 both sat very close & when the left  
 the nest simulated lameness. Both nests  
 were in low barberries. Taking a short  
 cut for the wagon through a yellow  
 pine grove a most interesting

June 12 - 1854

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Long-eared Owl & young  
little Eximius awaited me. While  
pushing quickly ahead I ~~steadily~~ heard  
on my right a faint creaking note  
of three syllable, crik-a-crik, like the  
squeak of a wheel-barrow. Advancing  
cautiously in the direction of the  
sound I was suddenly startled by  
a most piercing shriek followed by  
dozen others in quick succession  
each one less loud than that that  
preceded it, the whole occupying  
30 seconds perhaps of time, & suggesting  
the screams of a bird caught by a  
hawk, but very much more intensified.  
Instantly stopping what was my  
surprise to see a large owl suddenly  
pitch down to the ground about  
30 paces ~~off~~ ~~from~~ me & stand facing  
me with ~~managing~~ ~~gest~~ spread  
wings & gestures of unmistakable  
menace. A very demon he looked  
& I confess that for a moment his  
fiercely wild expression quite awed me,  
in other instant however he took  
wing thrashing the intricacies of  
of the wood with marvellous ease  
& rapidity & as he lighted on a low  
limb he again uttered his piercing  
shrieks. I now started in pursuit  
but followed it for some time, quite  
impossible to get within range.  
Occasionally he (or rather she for it was  
the ♀) would light on a tall dead  
beech top & give a deep low whoo,  
who, (more uttered more than twice)



June 12 - 1874

difficult to describe but very like the sound produced by blowing forcibly into the bung hole of an empty cask. After trying a long shot with my light dust-shot charge, I gave up the pursuit & hearing the creaking noise again, started off in search, & soon discovered the nest in a small cedar, with the white downy head of a young bird appearing over the edge. As it was now quite dark I resolved to leave them for the time so crept over the wall into an open pasture but had not gone far when one of the old birds (the ♂ I think as I still heard the shrieking notes of the other among the pines) came sailing along close over my head looking at me quite fearlessly & lighted on a dead tree ~~just~~ in easy range, but I was unwilling to try my light shot on him again.

June 13 Clear but cool. After spending the A. M. in stuffing a Sandpiper & a R. Buss. shot yesterday, I started off immediately after dinner & drove up to my owl's nest. I started both birds from trees near the nest & shot the ♂ without difficulty as he flapped lazily off through the pines within 15 yds of me but the ♀ gave me a long chase & was quite as shy

by daylight as she had been in the dusk, and went through all the same manoeuvres, at times footing but often uttering the piercing shrieks. The dashing rapidity & quick windings of her flight absolutely amazed me & I think I never saw any other bird show such perfect command of wing among thick branches. The flight of the ♂ (as seen last night) was slow & easy with frequent sailing & his wings looked broad & his head extremely large in proportion, but the ♀ had ~~an~~ a very different aspect & her wings appeared very long & swift-like. I finally secured her & next turned my attention to the nest. It was in a red cedar about 20 ft. above the ground & on examination proved a flat platform composed outwardly of sticks & lined with strips of cedar bark. Ex diam. 18 in. in. do 9 in. One young bird sat on the edge & another was perched on the branch of an adjoining yellow pine. When first seen they appeared a merely spherical ball of feathers, but as soon as they noticed me they drew themselves up to their full height, exactly like S. asio but unlike him did not seem to possess the power of "narrowing their eyelids into slits". When I had climbed to within a few feet



Jan 13 - 1874

Icteria virens

of them to my great surprise they stooped down & raising their hind part of their wings so that the secondaries ~~reached~~ touched over their backs, the tips of the primaries ~~reached~~ trailing on the branch on each side of their feet stood facing me with raised wings exactly inverted, that is the secondaries where the tip should be. I caught them easily though they were very savage clicking their bills & snoring through their nostrils.

Proceeding onward in search of further adventures I found a nest of D. O. origivorus on which the O. sat so closely that I nearly trod on her; it contained 5 eggs.

While searching some thick bushes for nests in general an Icteria virens the first I ever detected in Mass. struck up his familiar notes & sang for some time but I was unable to get close a sight at him.

Finding no more nests except two D. Penn. both empty, I drove home arriving about 8 P.M. I forgot to note that the nest of O. contained only a few feathers of M. b. umbellata & a partially devoured clover beetle. Under the tree I found only one pellet, composed entirely of mouse hair & bones. The lining of the nest was quite filthy & matted together with the exuviae of the young.

June 16-1874 215

Marston's Mills - Cape Cod  
June 17 Left Boston yesterday 4 P.M. with  
J. B. Melvin and arrived at  
W. Barnstable at 7. Then driven  
over to ~~the~~ Capt. Baylies by our  
old friend Jones with his excellent  
horses and enjoyed the ride  
much as the evening was cool  
and pleasant. This morning woke  
to find it raining hard and  
had to spend the forenoon in  
lounging about the house &c.  
At noon however the rain held  
up and after dinner we started  
out for a try at the blue fish  
in the Captain's boat, the "Star".  
Sailed down through the channels  
by "Old bridge" as far as Cotuit  
and "High Ground" trolling all  
the way but did not get a  
rise. On the way back however  
I struck a 3 lb. blue fish just  
opposite Mr. Perkins place, and  
as I was fishing with a small  
ash rod he gave fine play for  
a few minutes rushing wildly  
in all directions & occasionally  
haping out of the water but  
he finally shook the hook from  
his mouth and escaped. Got  
back at 8 P.M. After supper  
I went in pursuit of a whiffawire  
that struck up near the house  
and after a long chase secured  
him. The P.M. was cloudy & cold &  
I saw no birds worthy of mention.



June 18 - 1874  
Cape Cod

June 18 Clear with very strong N.W. wind. After breakfast we started out with the Capt. prepared to spend the day on the water. We were also accompanied by Barnard & Frank Hinckley. We drove down to Cotuit at a furious rate under two reefs and then stood out into the Sound for the "bell buoy" where we were to try the ground fish but finding the wind too strong were obliged to put in again. On a sand bar near "High ground" about 100 terns were sitting & getting the Capt. to put me ashore I shot four but secured only one as the others fell into the water & drifted off. I was here much pleased at seeing my acquaintance with *C. atricilla* about a dozen of which started off the island among the terns and rising high into the air saluted me with a wild laughing chorus that brought back old Muskogot days & crowding memories of a friend, never alas to be met with again upon this earth. We spent the rest of the day cruising about near shore shooting in all six terns; (I could detect no species here except *S. hirundo*) a pair of *A. melodus* and a pair of *Nac. griseus*. Of the latter bird I saw three individuals

June 18 - 1874

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the two shot were feeding together on a sand beach, and proved on dissection a ♂ & ♀ each with the generative organs in healthy condition. The testicles of the ♂ were perhaps half the maximum size, while four of the ovaries of the ♀ were as large as small peas and I think would undoubtedly have been laid sometime this season.

The terns were all mated, each pair sitting close together on the sand bars & keeping near each other while on wing. I saw a number flying about with small fish in their bills, which fact I cannot easily explain, as they cannot (judging from the sexual organs which were hardly enlarged at all) even have laid as yet. They have a frequent habit when sitting on the bars of raising both wings above their backs & exposing them to the breeze. The wind moderating late in the P.M. we sailed out to the buoy where we very soon satisfied the wants of all on board with scup & tautog, catching them in that most uninteresting way, on hand lines. The scup is a most beautiful fish when first taken from the water, its scales tinged with a delicate rose color which fades soon after death. I also caught a single rock bass



June 1874

apparently a near relative of the striped bass. Returning the wind nearly died out, as we passed through the channels, which gave me a good opportunity to listen to the birds. *Quercus grallasi* seemed to be a common species & I heard some magnificent singers. Dred. Gulls was also common & I heard one Parula Ann. The sunset was a remarkably fine one the beams streaming through breaks in the clouds & throwing an exceedingly strong light on the green oak woodland. We reached the landing at 8 P.M. well pleased with our days sail. I forgot to mention two or three *Habiastrus leuccephalus* & one *Sarus argentatus* in summer plumage, which were observed.

*Dot. originaus* is said to be quite uncommon here. I saw none.

Quail seemed to be not very numerous though we heard them in several places. *Amphispiza bilineata* is not very common at this season: two were observed. In the evening packed up for our return home to-morrow.

Cambridge.

June 20 Got into Boston yesterday at noon. A *Spizella socialis* which has a nest in front of my window is fed at frequent intervals, while sitting, by her mate.

June 20 - 1874

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In P.M. drove up to the "Warren Run" with Baston taking shot but no gun. In the upper run started a pair of cock the ♀ of which went through the performance of beating her wings on the ground &c. so that I judged she must have young in the vicinity but we were unable to find them. Shot showed remarkably well making six or seven points on the old birds which we chased about for some time. Saw two broods of *Turdus fuscus* & one of *Pooecetes gramineus*. ~~Both~~ able to fly well. Young Robins (I. mag.) have been out about a week. Visited a nest of *Hy. ludovicianus* & *D. Penn.* found a week ago but both were empty.

---

June 23 Clear and very warm. Started off in my buggy at 9 A.M. to visit two or three nests. The first a *Seth. ruticilla* on the farm was empty & deserted. The other was a *Cort. virens* (on the hill beyond Rock meadow) upon which the female was sitting. This bird sits very high on the nest or rather the nest is so small in proportion to her size that nearly all her body may be seen over the edge. The



Jan 1874

litmus keeps her head rolling about as if looking out for insects. Upon climbing to a hole with the nest I found it contained three eggs, but although from the ground, it looked within easy reach of the main trunk I could not even touch the edge stretch as I might. However as the branch though small looked sound & the tree was an oak I determined to crawl out upon it and putting this into execution I soon grasped the nest & was cautious by pulling it towards me, when without an instant's warning the bough split off at its junction with the main stem and I was precipitated head foremost through the leaves towards the earth: that moment seemed an hour & any escape from a fall of fifty feet to the ground below (which by the by was jagged & rocky) appeared quite impossible for no branches intervened to break the fall, but by the help of God I was saved, for the branch to which I still clung, ~~still~~ held by a strip of bark to the tree & swinging in the wind like a pendulum I was at length enabled to grasp another limb & ~~draw~~ draw myself up to a firm footing

June 1874

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once more, and found myself  
now the worse for the scrape,  
though it was certainly a very  
narrow escape. The juncos eggs  
were of course all broken but  
the nest which I drew in &  
secured was a very fine one, lined  
with fine needles. I afterwards  
found a nest of Vireo olivaceus.  
(2 eggs & 1 of M. phoeniceus all fresh) and  
shot a nest of J. fuscus, the adult  
of same, & ad. Sith. cuticilla, E. Hy.  
Londonia, & D. aud. aestiva.  
I forgot to mention that in driving  
up through the willows I  
saw a woodcock, apparently an  
old sitting on the road. Upon  
my getting within about 80 yds.  
it topped the willows & disappeared.

---

June 24 Rose early & had a light breakfast  
at 6. Started off on foot and  
skirted up around the swamps.  
Took a D. aestiva & N. phoeniceus  
for mounting. Came across a  
Pygmaea car. with a large brood  
of young only one of which I was  
able to shoot. They kept up a  
continual calling for food in  
a rather harsh querulous strain,  
but the instant the parent bird  
perceived me she uttered a  
sharp note which silenced the  
young at once, though in a few



June 26 - 1874

Nantucket Mass.

moments they would begin again. She finally led them off into a thicket of tangled briars where I could not follow. The one shot was squabbling on a broad lily leaf & when first killed had a blood red knob or protuberance on the base of the upper mandible; this soon shrunk away after death.

---

June 26 Left Boston at 11.30 for Nantucket, via Woods Hole, with E. J. Maynard. Had a pleasant sail across the sound on the steamer "Island Home" & arrived at the island at 7 P.M. Took board at Mrs. Starbuck's on Darling St. Saw nothing of note on the passage save great multitudes of terns as we approached Nantucket. A few were seen all the way across though they were far more abundant near the land.

---

June 27 Clear and quite warm with E. wind which is remarkably soft & pleasant here. Started off after breakfast striking towards South beach. For an hour or two saw nothing worth shooting but finally coming out on a large "conjunction"

June 27-1874

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Nantucket Mass.

we found Coturniculus pauper  
in abundance: indeed in  
one place in an area of 100 yds  
I think there were four or  
five pairs and they seemed  
quite evenly distributed over  
the whole plain, which is  
there or four miles in extent.  
I shot fifteen during the  
forenoon & Mr. M. ten. I had  
the good fortune to secure three  
nestlings in my lot in a  
most interesting plumage.  
They varied somewhat indeed  
with regard to wildness  
but in the aggregate were  
much tamer than I have  
found them at Concord Mass.  
The males usually sang from  
the tops of some little stunted  
red cedars that were scattered over  
the plain or in default of these  
from a bayberry or even a tall  
weed stalk. The ordinary song  
was, as usually compared, like  
the gring of some of the grasshoppers  
feeble (though ventriloqued) short  
& all on the same key. They  
had also another song new  
to us both:— a spluttering  
disconnected strain somewhat  
suggesting Cistothorus palustris  
but longer & less impetuous. This  
would frequently be continued  
30 seconds at a time. The



June 27 - 1874

Nantucket

chirp of both sexes is quite different from that of any other sparrow that I am acquainted with; it is quite sharp & varies from one to three syllables somewhat undulated like the chirping of some of the crickets. The bird when first flushed flies rather swiftly & vigorously, twisting a little, though not so much as *P. savanna*; it then changes its flight to a long regular undulating sweep quivering the wing like a *Cisticolus*. While singing it sits quite upright with the back much hunched. On the ground they both run & hop, but they never I think lie close like *C. hesleri*. I saw two broods of young both well on wing & found the nest of one brood. The young chirp (for food) almost precisely like the ~~adult~~ adult bird. *Quercus*, *Juncus* (et *canus*?) *Pooecetes gramineus*, *Ag. phoeniceus*, *Turdus migratorius* & *Mel. melodia* among the characteristic land birds here.

Have also observed a few each of *Pas. savanna*, *Dot. orizivorus* (10), *G. trichas* (10), *Chondestes pelagica* (1 pair), *Hir. horreorum* & *H. bicolor* (both rather common) *Sturnella magna*

June 28 - 1874 225

Nantucket

*Corvus am* (common) *Ardea*  
*herodias* *H. G. G. G.*, *P. P. M.*  
skinned our birds.

Sunday

June 28 Clear & a most lovely day. Wind  
N.W. & cool. In A.M. walked  
over to "the cliffs" with Mr.  
Harris (our Jan boarder)  
and had a glorious bath  
off the beach. Sitting concealed  
on an old wreck we had  
a rare chance to watch  
the terns, multitudes of which  
were flying about near us.  
*Sphyrina* bore the relation  
numerically, to *S. hirundo* of  
about one in twenty five.  
It looks smaller on wing the  
tail longer & the dorsal aspect  
pale white; it also flaps  
more slowly & easily. Its note  
is a very soft & mellow ~~like that~~  
very like that of *Agelaius*  
*annularis*. The notes of *S.*  
*hirundo* were the usual harsh  
vibrating ~~one~~, and a much  
softer ~~chick~~; the former seemed  
a note of anger or discontent  
while the latter had a self  
satisfied expression. We saw  
several dive so near us that  
we could plainly see them under  
water. They went to the depth  
of a foot or more & sometimes



June 29 - 1874

## Nantucket

swims under water several feet before rising again; whether they used their wings or not I could not decide but think they do not. We saw only two *S. macroura* & I was in hopes of detecting a difference of notes but will not commit myself yet. The fishermen say that the presence of a flock of terns hovering over the water is a sure indication of a school of blue fish: the latter driving the small fishes to the surface where the birds seize them. A flock of terns hovering in this way over the water, dozens plunging down at a time within a radius of a few yards, presents a most interesting appearance. They seem to strike their prey on an average of about once in five attempts. Saw a single *Chordeiles jaspata* this evening.

June 29

Clear & warm with E. wind. In A.M. we went over to the old wreck where I got a boat to recover the birds shot. Spent the whole forenoon pulling about, picking up

June 30 - 1874 227

Nantucket  
the terns shot by M. & myself.  
I killed about 20, 5 of them  
S. Paradise the remainder  
S. hirundo. I also picked  
up 9 shot by M. Saw  
them Chroci. Altricilla  
one of which I brought down  
at very long range. In  
P.M. I killed my associates  
& the gull.

---

June 30 Clear with N. wind & very  
warm. Off after breakfast  
N. drifting S. for sparrows  
which I sought the old woods  
again but finding no terns  
flying within range I  
took a boat and drifting  
down along shore with  
the tide secured 11 S. Paradise  
with the utmost ease I  
could have killed more.  
I also shot 3 S. hirundo  
& one *Ag. melodus*. S.  
Paradise has three notes,  
one & the most common  
a mellow monosyllable like  
the phew of *Pyra purpurea*  
(of which bird I noted a pair this  
morning) another kee-it,  
the third & the one denoting  
anger or pain exactly like  
that, produced by ripping  
forcibly a short piece of



July 1<sup>st</sup> 1874  
Nantucket Mass

cloth. They are rather more shy than *S. hirundo* & as a rule will hover over the dead bird of no species other than their own. I saw a single *Circus hudsonicus* in *un. pl.* this morning. *C. J. M.* got in a little later than I with 14 *C. passerinus* also about 7 specimens of *Aeg. phoeniceus* all in the first plumage I ever saw: one a ♀ had the shoulder as red as a poor male in spring; the throat a beautiful pure rose color.

July 1

Clear and warm. Wind W. Off after breakfast in the Schooner Rigged fishing "Naid Green", Capt Watson Burgess. Intended to steer for Muskeget but the wind proving ahead we stood up the harbor inside of Coats Point. Landed on 2<sup>nd</sup> point where about 100 terns were sitting & shot four, one of them *S. hirundo*. Continuing on up the bay we ran nearly within shot of a petrel which I took to be Wilson's, but Mr. Burgess considered it Leach's. At the head of the harbor we went ashore & I found a nest of *Sterna hirsuta* 3 eggs. Here I shot a *fig. S. impalmatus* (adlt in company with another) & saw three *Erantus impalmatus*. A post

July 1 - 1874 229  
Nantucket Mass

post-mortem examination of the  
Aegialitis revealed the fact that  
it was an exhausted ♂ that would  
not have bred this year. Scyth.  
trichas, was here quite numerous  
& seems to be the only warbler on  
the whole island. After a good  
swim we started for the town  
with the wind dead ahead.  
As we passed the end of 1<sup>st</sup> pt.  
we saw a number of terns  
sitting then so bow in to  
investigate & getting a good rate  
shot down 5 or 6 at the first  
fire. Getting on shore as  
quickly as possible we killed  
about a dozen in a few minutes  
picking out as many *S.*  
*paradisia* as possible. While  
shooting these latter birds two  
terns that we both took for terns  
came up & were shot down, I  
killing the last, & both together  
pulling trigger on the first.  
Upon picking them up we  
were amazed to find them *Sterna*  
*regia* in imperfect plumage. Upon  
dissection they proved a pair  
the ♀ having just laid her com-  
piment of egg judging from  
the oviduct & the bare spots  
on the breast & abdomen.  
The only note I heard was  
short harsh & raucous so nearly  
like that of *paradisia* that



July 2 - 1874  
Nantucket

I scarcely noticed the difference. It was also surprising that we neither recognized the enormous difference in size between this bird & *S. paradisica*, until we had them in the hand: both birds when picked up were alive and like all the *Sterninae* bit fiercely at the extended finger: the occipital was kept considerably raised & was a noticeable feature. The tarsi were nearly black with the under surface of the webs mottled with yellow. Reached home by 6.30 P.M.

July 2 Clear & rather cool. This East. We were awakened this morning by that venerable institution the Town Crier proclaiming in a loud voice "Great night at 1000 p. 96 Black fish ashore; 96." After breakfast we procured a team & drove over to said pond where on the beach we found already a great crowd of people assembled to view the unusual spectacle. The fish had got into shoal water & being left grounded by the receding tide, were butchered like so many hogs by having their throats cut with a knife. One of the men who assisted at the slaughter told me that they made a loud squeaking

July 2 - 1874

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## Nantucket

was while in the water & that they were led ~~about~~ quite easily by a rope passed around the body behind the fins but that when stuck with the knife their death struggles were terrible & several of the men had narrow escapes at such times. The largest fish was about twenty feet long & this yield of oil was estimated at about 2 barrels; this is worth at present \$20.00 per bbl. & the total value of fish as they lay on the beach was said to be about \$2,000.00. Before we left some old whalers arrived & immediately set to work to strip off the blubber: cutting ~~through~~ this into strips of about 6 inches in width it was torn off forcibly the whole length of the animal; the thickest blubber that I saw, perhaps exceeded by a trifle, 4 inches. The mammae of the cow were situated in two sets near the anus & were quite visible. The penis of the ♂ had an external extension of about 3 inches & a diameter of perhaps  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch. The "oldest inhabitant" affirms that no such catch as this ever fell to the luck of Nantucket before though our boat was secured at Provincetown 9 years ago. On



July 3 - 1874  
Nantucket

The way back we saw ~~an~~  
*Brachyotus Cassini* hunting  
about in the bright sunshine,  
as of old on Muskeget, and  
also noted a pair of *Botaurus*  
*lentiginosus*. The *Brachyotus*  
frequently sailed in circular sweeps  
like a *Buteo*. In P.M. skinned  
all the birds shot yesterday, except  
a tern & the *Agelaius*.

---

July 3. Clear & warm. Wind W. After breakfast  
loaded our cartridges for yellow wings  
& struck S. for "the commons."  
We soon separated & I returned  
at 11 with 18 birds, 15 *Cot. par.*  
& 3 *par. savanna* & 1 *Poocaturus*  
M. took 2 *Coturniculus* & a  
nest with 5 fresh eggs. It  
was built in a small tract  
of beach grass & the ♀ sat very  
close, imitating lameness  
when he dashed off. I find all  
my former notes on *Coturniculus*  
hold good; I have one new  
one: it has a frequent habit  
of quivering the wings like a  
*Pipilo* *halei*.

---

July 4 Alternately cloudy & clear. Land  
our plans for a trip to Muskeget  
to day but upon arriving at the  
wharf Capt. Burgess said that

July 4 - 1874

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Nantucket

It would be impossible as wind & tide were against us.

At this juncture a talkative fellow, Mr. C. Durham by name, made his appearance on the scene & offered to take us out in the harbor all day for 2.00, which offer we accepted & were soon standing across to Coates Pt. in his little schooner rigged craft. We spent the whole day sailing about in sight of the town with a very light breeze occasionally making a rally on the terns & altogether enjoying ourselves well upon the whole. I secured 3 *S. paradisea* & 8 or 10 *S. hirundo* & 1 *S. antillarum*.

We made several good shots into flocks sitting on the sand points sailing up & sailing within range. They are very shy of a sail boat when on the wing however, & rarely come within shot.

We procured a dog fish from a fisherman & skinned it on the deck of our boat. Running in to the dock late in the afternoon the middle of our boat fouled on the bows of a fishing schooner & it was a half hour or more before we got clear our bows crowing furiously at every



July 4 - 1874  
Nantucket

living being that came within range. After landing I noticed 9 *Sterna fuscata* flying about near the wharves & hiring a small boat pulled out & in the course of an hour secured three & had a good opportunity of watching their motions.

They look on wing very appreciably smaller than any others of the *Sterninae* & flap very quickly & continuously. They usually plunge from a higher elevation than the others (about 30 ft.) and if they miss their aim rise quickly & drop again frequently falling three or four times in half a minute. When rising they flap their wings quickly like a kingfisher. Their usual note is loud & high, very like that one of *Hirundo breviceps*. They have also a scolding chatter like *S. hirundo* but much weaker. Although I shot several from the midst of a flock the survivors showed not the slightest signs of hovering, though they frequently passed within a short distance of the fallen bird as it lay broken & winged on the water. W. however, informs me that he seen them in autumn swoop down repeatedly to the wounded

July 4-1874 235

## Nantucket

birds. I also saw a pair of S. hawks, fishing in the mass of a barn, skimming along close to the surface & picking up dead fishes (I suppose) without diving. They also very rarely light & swim on the water. On the sand bars they present a most beautiful aspect with the black of the crown contrasted with the beautiful pearly blue of the mantle; at such times the paired birds sit together side by side. Those near the water edge are generally engaged in washing & plucking themselves, and whenever a new comer settled among them he is greeted with loud cries of welcome from the assembled throng. I have several times seen a bird surely wounded & taken into the boat sit immediately about plucking & arranging his feathers so as to see that they are dry: to day this happened with one that had both eyes shot out & a wing broken. The bones of all these species, that I have dissected have an very flexible & will bend to almost any extent without breaking. The testicles of the males are, at their maximum size, very



July 5 - 1874

## Nantucket

small, (O) for so large a bird.  
 Both eyes incubate as is  
 indicated by the three bare  
 spots on the breast & abdomen.  
 I find it very hard to secure  
 good specimens as the blood  
 flows profusely from the  
 slightest wound & stains the  
 feathers beyond remedy. All of  
 the *S. antillarum* were O except  
 one, & two had already laid  
 at least part of their eggs.

---

July 5 My birthday & a dismal one,  
 with driving fog & heavy  
 cloudiness. Worked up most  
 of the birds shot yesterday.  
 Last evening we called on  
 a Mr. King & saw his collec-  
 tion of mounted birds, which  
 were shown us by his daughter,  
 Mr. K. being out. He had  
 about 800 among them a  
*Gallinula galeata* & a *Colaptes*  
*virginianus* which we are  
 informed were formerly abundant  
 on the island but were exter-  
 minated by a severe winter  
 some years back. Whether the  
*Gallinula* was shot here or not  
 we could not ascertain, but  
 propose calling on him  
 again if possible.

July 6 - 1874 237

Nantucket

July 6 Cloudy all day. Wind N.E.  
Off in forenoon in usual  
stalking the Cliffs this  
time when we found the  
terns flying in multitudes  
driven close in shore by  
the heavy wind. They came  
so thick & fast, that we could  
have easily killed hundreds  
but contented ourselves with  
picking out the *roseatus*  
of which I secured 10 & N. 20.  
I also killed 2 *S. antillarum*  
and skinned all my birds  
in the sand on the beach. Saw  
one *Larus argentatus* in  
air. J.L. In P.M. I made up  
my skins while M. went over  
to the Cliffs to try the terns again  
but the flight was nearly exhausted  
& he got only 3 *B. paradisea* & 3  
*antillarum*. The flight of  
terns here is a most inex-  
plicable affair: they will fly  
in myriads all day long from  
the Westward when the wind  
is in that quarter & continue  
so doing as long as the wind  
hold all apparently going &  
now returning. This was  
the case last week: but to day  
the wind veering into the E  
they poured along shore all  
day in a steady stream in  
that direction hardly stopping



July 7 - 1874  
Muskeget

to fish by the way: M. indeed tells me that when he left at twilight they were still flying. All the terns seen here are said to come from Muskeget: as nearly all on skin & judging this statement is probably correct. When there is but little wind in any direction they fish about the ships here & fly but little along the shore.

July 7 Cloudy & clear alternately. Wind S.W. & increasing to "half-a-gale" by evening. After breakfast God met Capt. Deaneham at the wharf by appointment and getting everything stowed snugly into the boat set sail for Muskeget. The course from Point Point lighthouse to the entrance of this harbor is N. N. by W. The wind being light we did not raise the island till about 11.30 and landed at 12 after a most daring and dangerous run through the rips, when had our captain lost been one of the best we should have stood but little chance of getting through. We spent altogether about 5 hours on

July 7 - 1874

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## Muskeget

the island. Landing on  
the point near the Relief  
house I struck up towards  
our old hut spending much  
time by the way watching  
the birds &c. I satisfactorily  
identified only two terns nests,  
both of them Vermilion. Was  
also fortunate enough to take  
one of Chori. atricilla eggs;  
this I found by watching  
the parent bird from a distance  
until she settled on her egg.  
I saw altogether only 3 gulls  
& although I fired long shots  
at two of them I killed neither.  
As I walked over the sand  
hills the terns would rise  
in clouds four or five hundred  
yards ahead & circle about  
high over my head keeping  
up their shrill cries. If a  
gull appeared they would  
immediately give chase &  
continue to harass him as  
long as he remained in the  
air. If a tern was shot down  
several hundreds would  
frequently collect over him  
in the course of a few minutes.  
Although the eggs say they  
commoner to lay about June  
15<sup>th</sup> we did not see a single  
"wisper" so persistently as  
they harassed. Indeed a



July 7- 1874  
 Mustiget

great change in the condition of the colony is apparent since the time of our last visit in '70. I should say there was not more than one tern then now to twenty then.

The roseates are however much more abundant than formerly & now represent nearly one half of the birds breeding there. M. shot a single *S. macroura* on the sand nest but I was unable to secure a single specimen then, every bird that I brought down proving to be himido. I found our old hut in ~~rather~~ a rather dilapidated condition with the window frame knocked entirely in. The spring was also quite choked up with weeds and a tern skeletonized by the owls lay on its brink. But I did not leave without a draught of its ~~cool~~ yellow water and a long ~~stay~~ had look at the spot where poor N. & myself passed our first night on Mustiget, rolled up in the same blanket. Indeed old recollections shrouded those bleak desec hills with a mist thicker than the sea fog that was drifting over it & I enjoyed the day but little.

July 7 - 1874

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Mustiget

On the way back to the  
boat we met Mrs. Warren  
& Parsons who had been away  
there for four or five days & I  
was introduced. They had  
killed about a dozen gulls  
& 2 owl (*B. borealis*) & had  
taken ~~10~~ 10 eggs of the former.  
They showed us a nest of  
Crows *Qu.* built in a bush  
not higher than 4 ft. & we  
saw 3 young crows which they  
said had just left it. I  
shot 5 *S. paradiis*, a pair of  
*S. humilis* with the bill  
head of *S. paradiis*; it may  
prove a hybrid. Also took  
a pair of *Ag. melanos*;  
one of them not more than  
3 days old. Ran down to  
Nantucket after a very strong  
wind catching a place on our  
drift & rising a gale (*sp.?*).  
The Nantucketers call *Ag. melanos*  
"apeblo" & the terns "tierces" They  
say "shrewetters" <sup>(*Agelaius nigra*)</sup> used to breed  
abundantly on Mustiget &  
that that island with the  
Gravelly & Smiths islands ~~are~~  
formerly formed a part of  
Nantucket. Capt. Dunham  
also told us that while cod  
fishing 35 miles off Great Point  
last week, he saw shoals of  
two species in great abundance.



July 8 Spent the day in packing up our skins &c. & visited the Nantucket Athenaeum. They had little of it outside of nautical curiosities.

---

July 9 Left Nantucket this morning on the side-wheel steamer "River Queen" & reached Boston at 2.20 P.M. Saw numbers of terns at Woods hole, including *S. paradisica*. M. came out to Cambridge & spent the night with me.

---

July 11 Clear and very warm. Took the 3.15 train for Portsmouth, with father & arriving there at 6.30 embarked on the propeller *Appledon* (50 tons) for the Isles of Shoals. By this time a heavy sea fog had set in and as we emerged from the mouth of the great petrels of two species (*P. Leachii* & *Wilsonii*) became very numerous & were very tame so I had a very good opportunity to observe their motions. Their ordinary flight is swift & skimming, & very swiftness like indeed that it would be hard to characterize any difference. They frequently picked up something from the

July 11 - 1874 243  
"Isles of Shoals"

surface; They also had a most curious habit that I never saw nor heard of before, namely of walking on the water: This was done in the following manner. The bird half spreading its wing on a horizontal plane, would actually walk with long strides on the surface of the water, apparently using its wing no more than to keep its balance, inasmuch as there was no perceptible motion of the members, and in this manner it would proceed many rods, ~~fetching up~~ its food, whatever that may be, from time to time. I saw at least 100 of these birds, all told. Also saw a small porpoise which "breasted" now and then under the bow of the steamer. Arrived at Appledore at 8 and after a poor supper & a first rate waltzing party, went to bed.

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July 12. Cloudy with a driving E. Rain storm all day. While looking out of the window a large black bird which I took to be a murre came drifting over the island before the storm. Its <sup>flight</sup> reminded me of that of M. alba. In P.M. the rain ~~held up~~ a little & I strolled



over the island enjoying the fine  
 sight presented by the heavy surf  
 as it broke upon the iron bound  
 shore. *Melospiza melodia* is the  
 characteristic bird here & absolutely  
 swarms. *Tringoides macularius* is  
 also common & had young running  
 about on the hilly pastures. These  
 swallows *H. bicolor*, *horreorum* &  
*lunifrons*, and *Tyrannus carolinensis*  
 were also in moderate numbers.  
 The poison ivy grows very thickly  
 in the hollows among the rocks as  
 our Muskut is, & the wild rose  
 & Gayberry are very abundant.

---

July 13 Took the boat back to Portsmouth  
 this morning & arrived in Boston  
 by noon. The petrels were as nume-  
 rous as ever this morning but I  
 noticed nothing new concerning  
 them.

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July 18 Clear & comparatively cool. Started  
 off in my buggy after breaking  
 the trap the woodcock but was unable  
 to start a feather. Had good luck  
 with young warblers &c. Saw & taking  
*Ab. chrysoptera* 3 nests. *D. Pennsylv.* 1 do.  
*H. ruficapilla* 1 do. *Geoth. trichas* 1 do.  
*Spiz. pusilla* 1 do. *Icterus baltimore* 1 do.  
*Molothrus pectoris* 1 do. The young  
*Ab. chrysoptera* were in Belmont

July 21 - 1874 <sup>245</sup>

Concord Mass.

When I have never seen the bird before: the chirp of the *D.* differed ~~markedly~~ appreciably from that of *D. superciliosa*. That of the young was quite different from anything I have heard very far & near. The *Notothrus* was fully grown & was attended by a *D. Pennsylvania*. The chirping of the young *S. pusilla* was different from that of *S. bicolor* much weaker. A pair of *Vireo noveboracensis* which were feeding their young scolded me with a continuous harsh chatter very like that of *V. flavifrons*. Birds are still very full song but most of the young I shot were passing into their second plumage.

July 22

Condy in A.M. Clearing off beautifully at noon. Took the 4 P.M. train for Concord, & after getting supper at the Church's Par. I took an early start up the Assabet. That naturally beautified river was looking its loveliest in its luxuriant garb of summer green and brown of its scenery certainly surpasses anything that I have yet seen in Mass. We got as far up as the "iron arch bridge" by dark & then floated most of the way back as the current was quite swift. Nearly



all the characteristic birds were singing at sunset, and after dark a few whippoorwills were heard in the distance.

I saw a single *Nyctanassa* *gardenii*, the first observed on the river.

At dusk I distinctly saw swallows going to roost in the thick alders on the river bank, but was unable to determine the species though I took them to be *H. bicolor*.

After dark the ~~large~~ moon shed a dim light over the scene and the nocturnal sights & sounds succeeded the diurnal. Bats were very numerous and their shrill squeaking was heard everywhere.

We heard also a cry new to us both: it proceeded from some winged thing bird or mammal or insect, that passed over our heads, and was a monosyllabic note very loud & sharp. The cuckoos at one time became very noisy singing many times in succession & answering one another from the opposite bank. *Rana pipiens* was heard at intervals & at one place I tried very hard to capture a solitary <sup>Probably *Bufo borealis* W.B. 1919</sup> spadefoot (?) that was giving his last plaint notes. Reached the landing by 10 P.M. well paid for my trip. I forgot to note a *Podiceps* that I saw distinctly from the cars at Wattham.

Umbagog July 24-1874 247

July 24 Clear warm and pleasant.  
Left Boston at 8.15 on the  
Eastern road and arrived  
at the lake by 11 P. M. after  
a most lovely ride through  
the notch by moonlight.  
Saw a *Phylloscopus* at  
Bryant's pond. Took possession  
of my last years room  
and turned in at once.

---

" 25 Clear: very warm in forenoon  
but good breeze in P. M.  
Unpacked my things in  
forenoon, that is as many  
as I have, our trunk & valise  
of ammunition having been  
left at Bethel as Clerk had  
too heavy a load to bring  
them up to night. After  
dinner took my Jonk's gun  
& with 7 cartridges all I  
had, started out to try for  
Cock. Put up fur and  
killed 4 in seven shots.  
Shot behind rather poorly  
pointing fairly but once  
when three birds jumped  
altogether from a spring  
hole giving me a fine double  
shot of which however I  
killed only the first. The young  
birds fill the woods with their  
chirping & I long for my dust shot.



July 26 - 1874

Sunday  
July 26

Clear and warm with a good breeze. Spent most of the day about the house taking a stroll up into the pasture back of Abbotts in P.M. <sup>sift</sup> with my to try for a shot at a woodchuck but saw none. Shot a bluebird at about 50 yds. *Mardus swainsoni albicollis*, *T. Pallasii*, *Cont. bonalis* & a few others and still singing. Shot a *Per. Candensis* (virens) pl.

July 27 Cloudy. Commenced raining at about 10 A.M. and continued till evening. Started after breakfast for a trap. ~~to~~ "the thicket" with Sargent but ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~rain~~ <sup>rain</sup> turned us back before we had got out of sight of the house. Passed most of the day sitting on the piazza and shot 2 2nd pl. *Hir. lunifrons* & a *Picus pubescens* with the whole top of head red. Leuman Sargent informs me that he once took a pair of young *Halitus leucocceph* from the nest & kept them alive: until the third year they changed but little - then the head & tail both showed a little white: the fourth year both assumed their perfect plumage.

July 28 - 1874 249

July 28 Spruce grouse & young  
Cloudy; rained all P.M.  
In forenoon took a turn  
through the "savins" with  
my Game gun & shot young  
birds the best D. tigrina &  
H. purpurea ♀, P. tetraca  
Jon. Elliott's & Tetrao Can.  
While pushing my way  
through the firs I found  
a brood of young Tetrao Can.  
which were about as large  
as quail. They rose with  
a heavy whirring to the  
tops of the low firs where  
they sat gazing at me utter-  
ing occasionally a low  
whistling note. The mother  
of the brood lit also on  
a fir near by and ~~called~~  
called continually kruck  
kruck, kruck kruck to  
her young. Approaching  
her slowly I actually got  
near enough to push her  
off the bough with the  
muzzle of my gun when  
she flew rapidly with the  
whirring to another small  
tree & allowed me to approach  
quite as near again. Some  
off a few yards she began  
to call again loudly and  
the young birds answering  
she took wing and alighted  
among the firs in flight &



general attitude. I noticed nothing widely different from *T. B. umbellus*, and the young were at a little distance surprisingly like those of that bird at the same age. Most of the <sup>young</sup> warblers seem to be in transition from the rustling to the fall plumage.

I heard *maculosa* singing. The young of *Zon. albicollis* and *G. trichas* show precisely the same notes as the adult.

I heard *Canivrotta* Am. flying & Mr. Miller (a boarder) shot a *Hyl. pilatus* which clung to a huge tree & has not yet fallen. The chirping of the broods of young birds is the characteristic sound of the woods now & all sparrows, warblers &c. seem to make exactly the same sound. In P. M. skinned my birds & *Mamm. Bodwin* & Sagunt brought back 26 trout from Taylor's cove.

July 29

Cloudy and rained at intervals all day. In P. M. Messrs. Nix & Miller, Bodwin & myself chartered the steamer for 5.00 and sailed up to Taylor's cove, where I

caught about a dozen  
small trout & the others  
about the same number.  
Nothing in the bird line of  
special note except that  
we were treated to a  
glorious concert from the  
hemit thrushes but the  
crow. Got back by dark  
rather wet but well  
satisfied with our trip.

---

July 30 Clear and cool. Wind N.W.  
In A.M. took a short  
turn through the Larins  
bringing in 11 birds among  
them B.D. castanea 1, 1.  
L. maculosa do. 1, do. Lox.  
albicollis, 1 Parus Hudsoni adlt  
1 do. Emp. traillii & c.  
The chirping of the young  
of the different warblers is  
absolutely unalike & distinguishable.  
That of the young of Setophaga  
is very like but a trifle  
stronger. A young Loxia  
cinerea that I shot kept  
up a note so exactly like  
a harsh note of the adlt L.  
maculosa that I was  
deceived until I saw it.  
Saw a Pevius arcticus &  
a young Coccyzus just  
able to fly & covered with



July - 1874

while down which uttered  
 the coo coo in exactly the  
 tone of the adlt. After supper  
 had some good sport  
 in the pool under the dam  
 landing & trout & holding  
 a four pounder for about  
 10 minutes but finally  
 losing him by my leader  
 breaking. Chordilus pictus  
 I hear these moorlight  
 nights as late as 10.  
 All the Blackbirds were gone  
 at the time of my arrival  
 except a few. *S. ferrugineus*  
 which I see daily. I think  
*Merula bicolor* has left as  
 have seen none for two days.  
 & have noted the song  
 of *Cot. riparia*.

---

July 31 A. M. clear. P. M. cloudy with  
 light rain. After breakfast struck  
 up the N. bank of Cambridge  
 river & took 8 birds the best  
 3 *P. Archiens* (13.9.) 1 *Emp. Traillii*  
 (nest.) 1 *A. coronata* (nest.) &c.  
 The young *E. Traillii* although  
 barely able to fly called out  
 one note in almost exactly  
 the tone of the adlt. and kept  
 darting up after this although  
 they were fed at frequent  
 intervals by the parent. In the

Aug. 18.

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Evening I fell in with my  
brood of Spruce grouse again  
and watched them for some  
time. One of the young, the  
largest, walked out on a  
spruce limb and raised his tail  
up like a turkey cock and  
kept calling in nearly the  
manner of the adult ♀.  
The young *coronata* had a  
different chirping from the  
other warblers, more guttural  
and continued for a longer time  
without cessation. In the  
afternoon and evening caught  
ten trout below the dam some  
of the half pounds.

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Aug 1. Clear with three heavy thunder  
showers. Off after breakfast as  
usual sailing down the Pease,  
landing when I went ashore  
and took 5 birds the best  
*Hy. leucorhynchos* (2 ad. y.) *Picus*  
*villosus* 1 (y. y. with crown red)  
*P. pubescens* (1 imm.) & *D. castanea*  
(young changing). Shot also a  
fine adult ♂ *Gold Pigeon*.  
The young woodpeckers keep  
together in broods but small  
as the *P. pubescens* ones it was  
hammering vigorously on a dead  
limb & I doubt if they are far  
at all after leaving the nest.



Aug. 1 - 1877

The young ~~of~~ grosbeaks of which I saw two broods (one accompanied by a nest of in full set.) Had the plaintive note recorded last season, but also uttered the sharp click of the adult. Very few birds are singing now except the white throats. I have heard a Trg. hyemalis in full song to day. Pot. riparia has not left yet. I saw them to day. Small birds of all kinds are very scarce in the woods & some species apparently entirely absent. The lake continues very high - all over the meadow as in spring, and consequently none of the bar snipe or King's have appeared yet. Ducks are reported quite scarce. I have seen but two or three, & deer was said to have been killed in the Megalloway meadow last Sunday but I doubt. Took 12 trout below the dam.

Sun day  
 Aug. 2

Atmospheric cloudy & clear: rained at frequent intervals during the whole day. Spent most of the time on doors taking fine trout below the dam & forest.

Aug. 3 - 1874

255

Aug. 3 Cloudy and cold. After breakfast went up C. River in the skiff and took 5 birds that cost My. Canadensis mott 1, D. maculosa do. 2, P. ruber pubescens do. 1, S. carolinensis do. 1. Saw a S. carolinensis, and a hawk which uttered a very peculiar shrill whistle. Took also Emp. flaviventris adt. & mott. ~~two~~ of the latter were sitting side by side on a <sup>upturned</sup> ~~dead~~ limb uttering a juvenile version of the spring call of the adt. In P.M. skinned my birds and took 1 trout.

" 4 Cloudy and very cold. After breakfast rode up to the top of the hill with Mr. S. and after getting the mail, started down beating for Cock by the way. Flushed five broods of ruffed grouse all about half grown birds and shot two individuals, both over steady points & hard brush shots withal. Did not see any traces of Cock & judge that the season being so wet they have taken to the big woods. While



Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> 1874

Accipiter Cooperi & young  
 walking near the edge of a  
 deep ravine I was attracted  
 by a shrill whistling cry  
 repeated at intervals and  
 striding quietly down to the  
 place saw a brood of four  
 Cooper's hawks sitting in a  
 row along a fallen log. Every  
 little while one or the other  
 of them would raise his wings  
 and flapping them to  
 maintain his balance  
 would walk a few steps  
 lengthwise on the log at  
 the same time uttering the  
 whistle above described, which  
 by the way was quite a  
 different note from that  
 heard yesterday. They sat  
 very erect and proud as  
 they now had all that  
 dignity and stem consciousness  
 of power so characteristic  
 of the family. Shooting  
 one of them the rest flapped  
 up into the trees above where  
 I heard another when the  
 remaining two disappeared.  
 I found under their roost  
 a half grown grown neatly  
 plucked with the head &  
 breast devoured. Further  
 down the hill I started  
 three pigeons quite unexpect-  
 edly and sitting both

barrels bagged the first  
 bird and missed the other.  
 Saw several broods of *Myadestes*  
*landorae*, and a number  
 of *Emp. traillii* all apparently  
 old birds. Shot also one  
 of a brood of *Cantopus*  
*coronatus*; as previously noted  
 at Pye beach the young  
 were calling out *gh. phibian*  
 in full adults. Saw several  
*Sphy. varius* for the first  
 time and also near the  
 house three *C. inornata*  
*Am.* The broods of young  
 grown were quite tame &  
 one of them shot found  
 roosting and coming to  
 a dead point on the  
 old bird which lay stretched  
 on the turf in a little glade  
 not two yards ahead of  
 his nest. They took to  
 the trees for the most part  
 and many of them exhibited  
 most comical demonstrations  
 of anger bristling up and  
 keeping up a continual  
~~sharp~~ whistling and grunting  
 as if quite indignant at  
 my intrusion. In the  
 afternoon skinned my birds  
 and took 7 trout.  
 Messrs. Samborn & Lancaster  
 came out to day.



Aug. 5 - 1874

Aug. 5 Clear warm and a fine day. In forenoon went out collecting as usual, taking the forest path towards Stone's clearing. Took 10 birds the best D. Blackburnian 4 (1 nest) Parula And 1 (nest), Y. Swainsoni 1 nest &c. Came across a large brood of young *Prog. hyemalis*: they were very tame one of them coming up almost within reach of my hand as I stood motionless watching him. They kept calling out in a ~~high~~ fine shrill whistling tone reminding me somewhat of a noise made by the whole family of *Cardinalis*. Saw a large flock of *Chrys. pinus* feeding in a Birch tree in company with two ♀ *Curr. And.* & shooting a ♂ of the former I found the generative organs of a very small size. Unlike last season I rarely see or hear this bird since the Lake House & what few I have seen elsewhere have the habits of the species in fall. I have been utterly unable to detect either *D. tigrina* or *D. purpurea* within the last few days & think that the bulk of both species have already left here. I took a

Seth. cuticilla, a ♂ of last year, that was beginning to moult his worn plumage. The new feathers that had already started indicated a fall plumage like the young. Whether the adult ♂ assumes this plumage or not I am at present uncertain. I heard two bird notes to day that I was unable to determine; one was very like the chip chirp of *Pyrranga rubra* & may have been the call of the young.

Aug. 6 Clear & warm. I sprinkled a little in P.M. After breakfast with S. taking the Tyler road & going nearly one to the farm. Took 11 birds the best *H. peregrina*, 4 *D. tigrina* 1 im. ♂, *E. traillii* 1 y. y., *E. flaviventris* 1 (adult ♀) *Coccyzus colubris* 1 (y. y.)  
 Saw across a brood of young *E. traillii* on S. S. farm. They were in a thicket of low bushes & the young as of the former brood called at quite a distance while the ♂ intimated the place of alarm. The hummer was sitting on a bright spruce and and kept up an incessant



shrill zee which puzzled me for some time until I caught sight of its author. In an open second growth of birch & poplar we came across a large company of warblers  $\frac{3}{4}$  of which were *Sp. pyrrhina* & among them I shot the *D. tigrina* & a very young nest. of *D. Blackburnian*. The first species had a chirp very (if not exactly) like that of *Sp. sufficapilla* & were rather shy & restless. We saw two large broods of *Bonasa umbellus* & a *Scopus Americanus*. In a small back swamp were a number of *Mel. palustris* & *G. trichas*. How they find out these little confidential points in the depths of the forest is a more curious wonder to me. In P.M. skinned our birds & I caught two small trout.

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Aug. 7 Clear and very warm. Had two very heavy thunder storms in P.M. & during. Off in forenoon with S. taking the good path to Stonia's clearing. Found birds rather

scarce but took 25 the best  
*D. tigrina* (adlt), *Picus villosus*  
 1 ♂ (y. y. changing) *Dend. coronata*  
 (nest, without yellow rump) *Sitta*  
*atricilla* (adlt & downy to fall pl.)  
*Emp. flammula* y. y. S. shot  
 a *Dend. Penae* in nearly  
 completed fall pl. also a *Cont.*  
*bonalis* adlt in good plumage.  
 We saw our "partridge" an  
 old cock.

Aug. 8 Cloudy with E. wind &  
 raining in forenoon. After  
 breakfast S. & myself went  
 down river in my boat &  
 I shot another nest *D. coronata*  
 & a *D. maculosa* in fine fall  
 plumage. A flock of *Ag.*  
*semipalmatus* came over  
 the meadow but find no  
 resting place passed out  
 over the hills to the S.  
*Cot. riparia* is still with us  
 as are *H. horreorum* & *Chondestes*  
*gularis*. In P. M. the  
 rain holding off we  
 went out again taking the  
 Stony road. I took 7 birds  
*T. pallasi* 2 (nest, in speckled  
 pl.) *Contopus virens* 3 (2 nests)  
*My. canadensis* 1 (y. y. & pl.)  
 The young *T. pallasi* were  
 chucking so in fall. The



instl. *C. virens* were being fed by the parent bird. I was quite noisy, calling out *psar psar psar* in a peevish tone very like the young of *E. rubicundus*. The old *ps* was in perfect spring plumage: indeed I began to suspect that the two *E.* representations of this genus do not moult at all in summer. The young of *My. Canadensis*, *D. Blackburni* and *D. maculosa* have now for the most part acquired their full fall plumage. I shot two *Corv. borealis* and a *D. virens* in perfect 2nd pl.

Monday  
Aug. 9

Rained most of the day. Spent all the P.M. in skinning the birds shot yesterday.

Aug. 10 Clear and hot. Off after breakfast taking the Dyke road & going as far as the Dyke farm. Shot 11 birds the best *D. tigrina* ♂ adlt, *C. trichas* instl, *D. maculosa* instl, *Picus villosus* very white ♀, *Chaetura pelagica*.

1 adt. *D. castanea* 1 y. y.  
 Tom shot a young *Q. P.*  
*Arcticus* with yellow on the  
 crown: here we have the  
 unique case of a young  
 bird possessing the ornaments  
 of the adt. & losing them  
 in the first molt as I am  
 convinced this bird would  
 have done. I obtained this  
 specimen from him in  
 ex. for my adt. & shot last  
 week & also ex. a *Emp.*  
*flaviventris* for a very fine  
 young & *Sphy. varius*. I also  
 shot a y. y. *Beivrus anaeap.*  
 We saw no game excepting  
 a pair of pigeons flying  
 high up. In P. M. I skinned  
 our birds. The chirp of  
 the warblers I have heard  
 for several nights past  
 & I think they are already  
 beginning to move. No bird  
 sings regularly now excepting  
*Zonotrichia* & he is fast  
 lapsing into silence. His  
 two first notes are exactly  
 those of the "Mulligan gards".  
 After breakfast took a  
 paddle down river & enjoyed  
 a fine sunset. Every thing  
 is as yet green & summer  
 like in the woods but  
 the autumn is close at hand.



Aug. 11 - 1874

Aug. 11

Clear and very hot. Charles Barstow & George Lombard came last night. After breakfast seeing a bird flapping its wings on a strip of meadow below the house, as though unable to rise S. & myself paddled down & found a Pandion eating a large fish which he carried off with the utmost difficulty upon our approach. In P.M. we then (S. & I) started out to try for cock but failed to find a bird. We saw brown purplish tints back of Peasey's which B. & myself fired a shot each at without success. I shot a fine *Philadelphia* in full fall plumage but unfortunately I cut it up so badly that it was worthless. We also shot two young *Geothlypis*, nothing it may be of Phil. which puzzled me completely. They were unlike *trichas* being darker about the head & rather larger. ~~Small~~ *trichas* were however chirping apprehensively near the spot & I heard one of the young utter the characteristic *te-hay* of that species. Still I am inclined to the belief that they may be *Philadelphia*.

Aug. 12 - 1874

265

Aug. 12 Clear and the hottest day  
of the season here. This. 9 o'clock morning  
After breakfast Stone, Lombard  
& self started down river in  
Duncastor's sail boat & spent  
the day on the lake going  
around "800 acre" island &  
as far up as Mt. Allene is.  
Saw several fish hawk's  
two loons & a few ducks.  
Did not shoot a single bird  
though we tried a few shots  
at the loons with our rifles.  
On the way down seeing a  
large bird light on a rock  
in front of Olinwood's house  
we sailed down on him  
and I was on the point of  
shooting when I noticed  
that he was feeding from a  
tin dipper and as we ran  
close up to him he flapped  
his wings and squeaked a  
few notes of pleasure or recognition.  
I saw then that it was  
a full grown Larus argentatus  
in brown plumage & evidently  
a tame bird. Very possibly it  
was raised from an egg taken  
at B. pond when this species  
breeds. A party of anglers were  
fishes having depopulated our  
trout pool I have had no  
fly fishing of late. Our evenings  
are now quite enjoyable with the company  
of S. B. & B.



Aug. 13 - 1874

Aug. 13

Cloudy; rained at intervals during the day. Off collecting in A. N. with S. Making the Stone Road. Shot 12 birds the best S. Philadelphica (full fall pl.) 2. *Tigrina* 1 adlt ♂. *P. villosus* 1. *P. pubescens* 2 1 small ♀ with head broken. *Sp. varius* (2 y. y. 1 adlt ♀, 2. Blackbird 2. *Gay. philatus* 1 adlt ♂. The *H. philatus* I killed on the edge of the Stone farm. I was attracted to it by its laugh which was very like that of *Colaptes* but slower, rather louder, and ending in a slight tremble: it might be readily mistaken for the song of that bird indeed I am conscious of having heard it near the house a few days since, when at the most I only suspected it real author. The S. Phil. I shot on the wood path. It is a more deliberate bird than its prototype & I think does not give it tail at all: its chirp which I heard distinctly was almost precisely similar to that of *Sturnus* now. *Ariz. purpureus* is still with us: I saw a large flock in the pasture to day. Chordulids still booms morning & evening & of the swallows only *H. bicolor* is gone. *My. Canadensis* sings off & on now, in the woods. In A. N. there is a *Phil.* in the garden.

Carters shot a bad. Aborigine in the river below the house in the morning.

Aug. 14 - 1874

267

Aug. 14 Cloudy & rained in P. M.  
 Off after breakfast taking  
 the Stone path. We both  
 had most execrable luck  
 missing losing our birds  
 &c. I took only 4, *S. auricap.*  
 2, *P. imbrechus* 1 y. y. 8,  
*Cortopis borealis* 1 ad. ♂.  
 After dinner shot a *G. Phil.*  
 in the Abbotts garden. It  
 was very tame allowing  
 me to approach within six  
 feet. It had in addition to  
 the sharp water thrush chirp  
 (described under Aug. 13) a  
 faint *Dendrocin* chirp.  
 On the edge of the Stone fern  
 I heard a *My. crinitus*  
 very distinctly & S. saw  
 the bird perched on the  
 top of a tall white pine.  
 In P. M. skinned our five  
 birds and winged about  
 the house.

Aug. 15 Clear cool and a fine day  
 with ~~that~~ crystal charms in  
 the air characteristic of Oct  
 weather. After breakfast S. & I  
 with Leonard Sargent as guide,  
 took a team & driving here  
 to the Cross place started in  
 for a days fishing at "the  
 Shiver". The distance is 4 miles



Aug. 15 - 1874

## "The Striver"

cut with a fair path, we made it easily by ~~road~~ and putting my rod together I soon had the small trout jumping most exuberantly.

Every time a cloud passed over the sun the fish struck the flies almost as soon as they touched the water and by 5 P.M. I had taken about 75 more of them on  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. hooks. Starting for home we had a most delightful tramp through the woods in the cool of the afternoon & as we emerged from their dark shade just as the sun was setting the light on the mountains to the S. was most lovely passing through all the imaginable shades from rose color to deep azure blue. We saw many bear "signs", logs that they had rolled over in quest of grubs &c. & old stumps torn literally to pieces by their powerful claws. Birds of all kinds were exceedingly numerous. At the Striver a very fine adult Circus passed over our heads and some of the familiar small birds, *M. melodia* Linn. &c. had young then. On the way out I shot a very fine specimen of

Aug. 15 - 1874

269

"The Shrike"

G. Philadelphia as well as a  
Pernonius Can. in nearly perfected  
fall plumage; the latter as  
noted in 1871 ~~should~~ so  
exactly like Icterus Baltimore  
that I could not detect the  
slightest difference; he was  
sitting on the top of a Spruce  
some 300 yds. away when  
seeing us, he spread his  
wings and sailed in  
a long curve without a single  
flap to a bush within a  
few yds. of where we were  
standing. *Turdus Sw.*  
was especially abundant  
everywhere. We saw three  
flocks of G. Green & I shot  
two with my rifle missing  
besides two flying shots with  
Ston's gun. While driving  
towards home at twilight  
an owl passed high over  
our heads flying busily  
like a night hawk. It was  
I think a *Syrnium nebulosum*  
and I was much pleased  
at getting this little insight  
into his habits. We saw  
*Turdus nig.* *Amphisp. cedron*  
& others in the very heart of  
the woods. Heard also a  
H. *Gilliesii*. The note is  
unmistakable though very  
like that of *Colaptes*.



Sunday  
Aug. 16

Clear and cool. Spent the day about the house writing letters &c.

Aug. 17

Clear and warm. In the morning took the Shamboat with P. and disembarked in my boat at Leonard's pond when we found about 20 brooded mergansers. Paddled S. up to a flock of 4 of which he killed three in the water. At the report a larger flock rose from the grass and grassed the boat when I fired both barrels, killing my first bird. The steamer returning from Eriol in about an hour took us on board & we reached the lake house by 12 P.M. On the board of the lake I saw a flock of about a dozen Chroi. Bonapartei as well as a number of Larus argentatus. Spent all the afternoon in making a new sail for my boat. Bates went in. To the shore this morning and returned with a large basket of trout as well as a black duck and several partridges.

Aug. 18 - 1874 271  
Hydrochelidon plumbea

Aug. 18 Cloudy and threatening through the forenoon clearing off in P.M. Started up the lake in the Shamboat this morning for a days shoot on the lake & Lo's pond. Took to my boat at the outlet and after firing about 25 rifle shots at a loon (who by the way seemed rather to like the fun paying no more attention to my shots than he occasionally rise & flap his wings when I came very near him) I paddled across the flooded meadow into the pond. In one of its most secluded nooks I was much surprised at coming suddenly upon a very large loon: he dived instantly & marking his course by a line of bubbles on the water passed nearly under my boat & escaped into the river. I saw a number of ducks (orn. A. orange) in the pond but fired only one shot at a sitting bird wounding & losing him in the weeds. Saw several Pansorvus Can: & heard them utter a variety of shrill hawk like whistles. Came across two Picoides arcticus both ♀ & shot



than our flying. Saw a flock of about 30 pigeons flying. On the wooded island the water thrush was singing most gloriously its clear beautiful warble sounding all the finer from the perfect silence around. Starting down river at 1 P.M.

I hoisted my sail and reached the Lake house by 5 without taking a stroke with paddle or oars the whole distance. At the mouth of the river I saw several flocks of *Gambetta flavipes* as well as a few *S. melanoleuca* & *Tringa maculata*. A large flock of *Ybis bitor* was also flying about the Thos! I have not seen them at Upton for three weeks. Emerging into the lake I saw flying over the water four birds which I at perceived were new to me and after watching them a few moments I came to the conclusion that the were the *Hydrochelidon plumbea*. ~~and~~ After chasing them about for some time I got a shot & securing the birds found that my conjecture had been correct. Shortly after I killed another when a third which was flying near a small ~~sheep~~ <sup>sheep</sup> came down to the dead bird.

I hovered in true tern style. This bird I also killed but the remaining one escaped.

Their flight was peculiar & very unlike any of the other species: it more resembled a swallow or a petrel's and they kept quite high up frequently hovering about ~~1000~~ 1000 yds or more above the water. Again they would seem to be searching its surface flying easily along & occasionally stooping down like a gull but in no instance in the course of an hour observation did I see one actually touch the surface. Upon dissection I found their stomachs filled entirely with insects: principally grasshoppers with a few Coleoptera & Diptera. All were quite fat but their bodies omitted none of that salty fishy smell peculiar to the marine species. The only note that I heard was a shrill & rather feeble keeep, keeep. Their throat looked from every side nearly black, & about as large as night hawks.

Saw a few Phaethon rubricauda & 7 ospreys. The latter is a very shy bird here. A Providence gull took some fish trout today at St Andrews.



Aug. 19 - '87

Aug. 19 Clear and cool. Spent the A.M. about the house skinning birds &c. In P.M. took a turn up on the hill with S. Opposite Peaslip's we found a flock of about a dozen pigeons & I fired three shots at them flying without success though I took feathers from two of my birds. S. killed one sitting. Saw two E. Phil. & shot a young *Scot. ferrugineus* & *Scot. calceon* & *Hy. Ludoviciana*. *Viridis* *End.* is not an uncommon bird here; I see them nearly every day. In the evening there were several large arrivals at the lake house: among them Dr. Hutton and Drs Greenough & Grant of Boston.

Aug. 20 Cloudy and rained most of A.M. Spent the first part of the day in the house skinning birds &c. Late in P.M. started up on "the hill" with Stone. Opposite Peaslip's we found a flock of about twenty five pigeons and got a number of shots at them. I brought down two from the wing & S. shot one from a tree. They were quite tame and were attracted then by the blueberries & raspberries. Their flight is I

think at times ~~more~~ as rapid  
 than any bird I am acquainted  
 with and their habit of scaling  
 & twisting when passing through  
 the woods makes them very  
 hard to hit. Took also  
 two G. Phil. (one adult & three  
 Pinn villosus, and an adult & 2  
 Tetrao Can. The latter I  
 flushed from a clump of  
 raspberry bushes in the open  
 pasture several rods from the  
 woods which were hard wood  
 growth: quite an unique haunt  
 for this bird. She rose with  
 a magnificent burst and hurried  
 off for the woods in fine style.  
 We find a dust squab at her  
 on wing & hit her fairly but  
 the small shot had little effect  
 on her & I was obliged to follow  
 her into the woods when  
 I shot her through the head  
 as she sat on a log. Properly  
 educated & in a good shooting  
 country I think this species  
 would make a fine game  
 bird.

Aug 21 A. N. char & hit. P. M. rainy.  
 Started up the hill after breakfast  
 taking my G. Phil. gun. But  
 all the forenoon for game &  
 shot three pigeons, two of them



cross shots flying. Killed also a  
 fine Y. Y. G. Phil. & a Hy. Ludoie.  
 The former I saw suddenly appear  
 as he was resting in a bush,  
 and watched him for some time  
 before shooting. Humming birds  
 have become very abundant  
 within a few days. I was out  
 & killed a ~~very~~ young warbler  
 which I think is D. tigrina.  
 In P. M. skinned our birds.

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Aug. 22. Clear cool and a very fine day  
 with a strong bracing N. wind.  
 Took the Shamboat up the lake  
 with S. and passed out of the  
 pleasant days that I ever  
 remember, in & about Leonard's pond.  
 We had most excellent shooting  
 bagging 8 ducks, 7 of which were  
 killed singly on the wing. Of them  
 I killed 6 3 black, and 3 mergansers.  
 I also shot a very fine boar in  
 the pond, hitting him first with  
 my rifle at about 100 yds distance  
 & killing him instantly ~~at~~  
 by a sharp shot as he rose  
 within twenty yds. The first  
 bullet I found passed through  
 his throat severing the tongue at  
 its base, the last through the  
 back of the head. As he lay  
 dead on the surface of the water  
 among the green lily pads

he presented a most beautiful appearance, frosted over as he was with minute air bubbles and we paddled around him several times before picking him up. J. & myself each made a most wonderful cross shot on two mergansers killing both birds dead at over 85 yds. I used my Jones b. loader & was much pleased with its shooting. I also shot a

Buteo Vultur at a great height sitting him in the hump back losing sight of him as he scaled down I could not find him. One of the black ducks was wounded in the wing & made up the bank into the woods at a most surprising rate of speed. He went in about 50 yds & I should certainly have lost him in the thick brush had I been without shot who found & pointed him as he lay crouched among the leaves. Saw both species of grackles and but few other small birds. Coming down the lake in the steamboat I saw several *Phalaropus hyperboreus* & had my first good chance to observe their habits. Their flight was very like that of *Calidris* and they resembled that bird



a good deal on wing, looking however considerably smaller. In their manner of circling about over the water they reminded me somewhat of a mutton gull. They lit frequently on the surface in the middle of the lake although the waves were running quite high. One of them passed near the boat: I shot at it but missed. The next instant I was much amazed to see it suddenly start upwards in pursuit of a small moth which it chased eagerly for some distance but without succeeding in catching it. Saw also a pair of Chrois Bonapartei in air. Mr. Lewis Brown was on the boat: he had been up the Megalloway above Ramachany on an exploring expedition. Messrs. Henshaw with his wife & sister arrived on the stage in the evening.

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Sunday

Aug. 23

Clear and a fine day. In A.M. out about the horn road &c. Spent most of P.M. in letter writing &c.

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Aug. 24 Clear & cool. Started at 8 o'clock with S. & Mr. Godwin for a tramp in to "the Shire" which

we reached by 11. Fished then  
 until 4 P. M. when we started  
 out. G. & myself took in all  
 about 50 small fish only  
 one (my take) reaching a pound  
 weight. Saw three broods of  
 partridges but as they were  
 uncommonly wild & I had  
 nothing but my rifle I  
 did not kill any. One brood  
 of about a dozen rose from  
 an open clearing among the  
 firs, going up one or two  
 at a time & had I had my  
 br. loader I think I could  
 have got 5 or 6 down on the  
 ground at once. I spent  
 most of the day shooting along  
 the path and bagged Canada's  
 Petrel. Saw with a number  
 of smaller birds, including a  
 very young Empidonax which  
 I think must be *Macmilli*.  
 Heard a G. Phil near an  
 old camp & I saw the bird  
 distinctly. Found a number of  
 shots with my rifle at a  
 very large White Bonob's which  
 kept drilling about over my  
 head but did not succeed  
 in hitting him. In the  
 barn at the Cross Place I had  
 heard on our last trip some  
*Julasgia* twitting after dark &  
 examining the premises this morning



I was pleased at discovering one of their nests built against one end, ~~up~~ near the ridgepole. It was fastened against the flat face of the boards & differed not at all from the usual type. I have twice lately had a *Trochilus columbis* spin itself within a foot of the bright purple sleeve of my cardigan jacket as I stood fishing without by mistaking the garment for a bank of brilliant flowers; in neither case did it seem quite sure of its mistake until I moved & frightened it. Reached the house by 6 P.M.

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Aug. 25 Clear & a fine day. Spent the whole of the forenoon in skinning & making up my birds. It was not so tough a bird as the one shot last year but I spent much time & washing & charring off the blood. It proved a ♂ & weighed  $8\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Late in P.M. took a turn up the swamp road on Comb. river & shot 6 birds. 1. nearly adult *Perisoreus*, & 1 *S. vancouveri* (y. y. fell pl), 1 *Parus* (ad) (do) 1 *Sitta Can.* (do) 2 *Regulus satrapa* (changing to fall pl). All the young birds are past

getting out of the misting Id. but they also seem to be having been properly started on their I. migration by the almost frosty nights which we have had lately. Saw a flock of them *Perisoreus*; they acted in the usual manner. Heard for the first time & distinctly *Carrirostra leucophaea* flying overhead.

Aug. 26 Cloudy most of the day. Spent the forenoon in skinning the birds shot yesterday. After dinner started out with S. & B. taking the Stone road. Found birds very scarce, indeed the woods seemed almost completely deserted. I shot three *Scot. fuscigularis* (y. y.) a very young nest of *Junco hyemalis* & a nest *Geothlypis trichas*. Returning S. & I took a paddle up C. River in the skiff but saw nothing of note. I knocked over an old cock partridge to Shot's point flushing him from the ferns near the path. Also shot a kingfisher as he flew by the boat: it proved a very young bird & with four or five others were keeping up a continuous rattling in a more subdued tone than the adult.



Aug. 27. 1874  
 Aug. 27 Clear & a fine day with little  
 wind. S. B. & self took the  
 boat up lake and started in  
 at Leonard's pond for a days  
 duck shooting. Found about  
 a dozen ducks in the pond  
 and spent the forenoon chasing  
 them; at least B. did S. & I  
 having Dragon Station on  
 the two narrows. S. & B.  
 both had a number of shots  
 but bagged only one duck.  
 I find only one shot a very  
 long one & while lying in my  
 stand I was much surprised  
 at hearing the whistle of a  
 Pinnia Can. After imitating  
 his call for a few minutes  
 I got him within range &  
 killed him; it proved a young  
 bird in a plumage quite new  
 to me. Saw also a number of  
 Bry. solitarius here. After lunch  
 S. & I sailed down the lake  
 to Black island cove firing along  
 shot at a Black duck as we  
 passed out of the river. In the  
 pond hole of the cove we found  
 about a dozen mergansers but  
 they all got off without our  
 getting a shot. As we approached  
 it at least 30 Ardea herodias  
 rose at once and after wheeling  
 about in circles lit on the  
 tops of some dead pines which

presented a curious appearance  
 covered with the great birds. Then  
 I also saw two adult *Larus*  
*argentatus* light on an immure  
 had true top & set their down  
 turn, their white plumage con-  
 trasting beautifully with a  
 dark cloud which formed  
 the background. We found  
 a flock of 4 *Gambetta flavipes*  
 feeding in the mud & I  
 fired at one of them flying  
 without success. Took the  
 boat off B. cove & reached the  
 house by sunset. All the  
 swallows left here day before  
 yesterday (25<sup>th</sup>) when we  
 noticed them collecting into  
 large flocks.

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Aug. 28 Clear and a very warm day.  
 In A. M. skinned a few birds.  
 Went in P. M. took a tramp  
 with S. over on the Tyne road  
 but had miserable luck, bagging  
 only 4 birds. *Coturnix* Can & y. y.  
*H. ruficapilla* y. y. *G. trichas* & y. y.  
 & *D. maculosa* y. y. Just beyond  
 the bog as we were walking  
 quietly along I chanced to look  
 up, and my attention was  
 immediately attracted by a pair  
 of young *Spina grona* which  
 were sitting on a small bush.



X B. Wilson killed & brought in <sup>over</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> ~~Butler~~ <sup>Butler</sup>  
~~the~~ over the path, one with  
 neck outstretched the other  
 squatted close on the limb.  
 Then they sat perfectly motionless  
 & presenting a beautiful sight,  
 amid the delicate green frondage  
 of the tree. After looking at  
 them for some moments I  
 shot one sitting and missed  
 a snap shot at the other  
 as he disappeared in the  
 thicket. The bird killed had  
 his crop filled with larch  
 needles. I fired at a H. columbian  
 sitting but missed. I heard  
 a P. arcticus & a Canada jay.

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Aug. 29 Clear and very hot. Off after  
 breakfast with S. taking the  
 Lytle road. Made a very morning  
 work of it taking 6 good birds.  
 2 Vireo Philadelphicus, 1 D. Black.  
 1 H. junco 2 My. Canadensis ad.  
 1 Vireo solitarius. S. took 1 N. Phil.  
 & D. castanea &c. He shot the  
 first vireo when I immediately  
 started after the heterogeneous  
 assembly of warblers chickadees  
 &c. among which he found it &  
 soon secured & shot two. They  
 were both very tame, within  
 100 yds & contrary to observations  
 made on this species in June 1877  
 appeared even more active

a. *Tamias*. These the  
 other vireos & indeed quite  
 as much so as any of  
 the Dendroicae. Two  
 of the latter were in the act of  
 eating a large greenish caterpillar,  
 when shot. They were all  
 killed on a low second growth  
 of birch & maple, & I should  
 judge their habits in this  
 respect may be analogous  
 to those of *V. noveboracensis*.  
 I obtained 2 specimens in  
 exchange for the Spruce grouse  
 shot yesterday. Upon dissection  
 they proved to be all ♂ and  
 of them as I thought adult.  
 One of the *My. Can.* was an  
 adult ♂ in full pl. a most  
 beautiful bird: he was in  
 full song. Birds of all kinds  
 seemed very numerous to day.  
 He struck our flock of  
 warblers, which must have  
 contained over 100 individuals.  
 I find that a few Herons  
 however are still left: all  
 the other species here I  
 think left. We shot two  
 broods of *Y. g. minor* & I killed  
 my first three birds in good  
 style, afterwards missing three  
 rather hard shots. In P.M. B.  
 went down to the marsh & shot  
 two *Gambetta pul.* a very nice & 2 *Spiz.*



Aug. 30 - 1874

Sunday  
Aug. 30

Clear & fine day. Had a heavy thunder storm about sunset. Spent the day about the house. Capt. A. Fickett informs me that *Sciurus Carolinensis* was one year (about 1860) very abundant on the Malloway when many were shot: a few were also seen about the same time at Errol N. H. Both since & previous to that time none have been seen.

Aug. 31

Clear and warm. Started out immediately after breakfast with S. taking the Tyler road. Found birds rather scarce but I made a fair bag notwithstanding 10 birds in all. The lot were *Vireo Phil.* 1 (y. y.), *Antros. vociferus* 1 (adult ♂), *D. caeruleus* 2 (♂ & ♀), *D. Black* (y. y. ♀ in very unique pl.), *Sitta Can.* & *Colaptes auratus* (y. y. ♀). The *Vireo* was in nearly the same place as when taken on the 29<sup>th</sup>; nothing was observed concerning it. The whippoorwill I started near the Tyler spring in a scattered second growth of birch on burnt land: it was perfectly silent & I killed it at a very hard cross shot, flying. Shot also a *D. striata* and saw a number of others. The *Colaptes* had

quite distinct black cheek patches though its dissection was so carefully made by both S. & myself & the ovaries so conspicuous, that there was not the slightest room for doubt as to the identity of its sex. S. got a *Perisoreus* from a little company of three which we both pursued. Though reputationally tame they nevertheless move quite quickly through the woods & are not always easy to get. This bird was wing broken & when approached screamed loudly & bit fiercely but with too little strength to cause pain. The others seemed to pay little or no heed to its cries.

The fall plumage of most species of birds is now complete. The small birds are becoming scarce & are almost exclusively in flocks. Spent the P. M. in skinning our birds.

J. Montgomerie & Walter Bracket arrived.

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Sept. 1

Clear with very strong N. wind. Feeling rather tired did not go out this morning but staid in my room writing &c. In P. M. took my boat and went down river alone. At the second sand bar saw a sandpiper running on the mud and firing at it, it rose uttering single sneller tweet and in



a short distance & dropped dead. Picking it up I was delighted to find that I had got a very beautiful specimen of S. Bairdii, the first I had ever seen alive. Wasn't nothing peculiar in its action excepting that it ran rather more rapidly than most of the genus. Continuing on down river I saw a pair of Black duck feeding in a muddy creek & stalking them I killed one the water & the other as it rose. Was quite surprised to find that the first was quite blind in both eyes the pupil being opaque & white. I next came across a small flock of Juncos & winged nuttall. (semipalm) & shot the off the latter at our discharges. Also killed a Phry. solitarius & a Gambetta and the latter at very long range. Then went on to Tyler place in N.H. & made a good bag. H. per. 10. nific. L. Castanea, D. Penn &c.

Sept. 2 Was dead with bracing N. wind. After breakfast started for a paddock up C. river. On the way before the house I made a good snap shot at a pigeon & shot also a fine young of S. Bairdii. While wrapping him up, two

Birds passed over my head at a great pace flying close together like pigeons. I shot the nearest one and found that it was a *Falco sparverius*, a y. y. bird in its plumage. Taking the best up river I got 5 or 6 birds. *Agave*, 2, little *Dum.* 1, &c. Saw several very large flocks of warblers but they were quite shy. Saw also a *Trochilus* cf. probably above the Crest. Skinned bird Fall P. M.

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Oct. 3 Chilly morning & misty. Heavy rain & wind with rain later in P. M. G. & I took the boat up lake in the morning & disembarked at Leonards. May be the narrow for ducks for their season, and I got several shots killing one *Querquedula discors* ~~shot~~ <sup>hit</sup> from a flock of which hit near him. I missed on shot a long one which I missed. Killed a *Sirois* Can. & heard a *P. arcticus*. After eating dinner we paddled down river & landing tried for gulls following them all of a hick I killed the first one without missing. While eating lunch we arrived river with feeding the crabs multitudes of which soon collected around the boat. (9)



Putting my hand down among them they would nibble ~~any~~ fearlessly at my finger. And I found no difficulty in catching even large ones in my hand. Took the skimmer at the outlet and found that she had struck a rock at Bottlebrook & was making badly. "Spuff". A bird was aboard & a gentleman in his party gave me a *Podiceps* in very singular plumage. I think it is a young bird. Coming down the lake the wind blew almost a gale and to my surprise nearly every loon that we saw would rise on wing easily at our approach. They tell me that it is impossible for them to rise in a dead calm. Herons & cormorants is still with us. At the outlet was very few that I heard. "Tringa Bairdi" but may have been mistaken.

Sept. 4 Clear cool and a most lovely day. After breakfast took the Tyler road with S. and walked over to the farm. Found small birds very scarce. In the marsh camp I shot a Thrush & going in to pick him up came suddenly upon an old cock spruce grouse. Standing on a little knoll amid a clump of bunch berries with ~~the~~ a Umbra lighting up his dark plumage. He presented a most beautiful appearance & I looked at him several moments before shooting. Killed a ♀ *D. carolinensis* & a few other worthless birds & came home meeting on the way Henry Douglas who gave me a fine *S. g. g.* *Tetrao* bird which he had killed. Spent the P. M. in skinning the grouse & the birds shot yesterday. The marsh is now nearly as dry as last year & herons &c. getting very abundant.

Sept 5 - 1874

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Sept. 5 Clear cool & fine day. Took the boat up lake in the morning and got off at the outlet. As I was arranging things on my boat a large trout was repeatedly near me taking each time a dead moth, numbers of which lay dead on the surface. Paddling into the river went ashore and beat nearly the whole of the marsh for snipe but could find none. Although fresh "signs" were in abundance. Saw here only a few rusty blackbirds & a brace of dusky ducks. Kept tried Leonard's pond but found no ducks. Saw a large osprey stoop down within 60 yds of me and seize a chub, making nearly as much noise as the fall of a large plank would have done. After eating lunch sailed down the river to within a mile of Errol where I was taken on board the steamer. Saw several large flocks of warblers & fired a single shot at a merganser but missed. Saw two Hbr. herringons at the outlet. Ring-billed Gull is also still here in moderate abundance. The bulk of the warblers here I think left.

Sunday

Sept. 6 Cloudy & warm. Spent the A.M. reading. In P.M. wrote letters. The maples on the river are fast turning crimson and the frost has touched the firs a little but the woods are as green as ever.

Sept. 7 Cloudy. Rained most of P.M. Off after breakfast with S. taking the steam road across the farm & thence through a wide path to Ellinawoods. Saw but very few birds. I



Philomachus jugnae

Took *Ac. fuscus* adt ♂, *Sitta Can.*, & *Ag. hyemalis*. I got an *Ab. ruficap.* I shot the hawk flying over the garden shed as he crossed the wood path. He fell winged and made off at such a pace, taking long leaps that I was obliged to shoot him over to get him. I found remains of an *Ab. ruficap.* in his crop. I also shot a partridge, one of them which rove in the open on the Storm farm; Saw a large flock but being unable to put them up after a long chase, turned around to squat to S., when they got up & off before I could fire. Heard a flock of *Curv. leucoptera*. *D. striata* is getting abundant

Sept. 8 Clear & a fine day. In forenoon took a short beat for game, near the house but "drew blank". I went over the Tyler road & took *Emp. flav. L.*, *Pinicola can. y. y. L.* & *yc.* In P.M. took a turn down to the marsh with S. & had some fair sport. Put up three snipe of which I shot 2 without missing. Previous to this & shortly after landing from the boat I chanced to look up & saw a bird flying by at 60 yds. flying with slow easy flappings like a hawk. I instantly fired and it went down on a long slant falling dead. Upon picking it up I found it was a new bird to me, *P. jugnae*. It uttered no note. I also shot a Bittern & an *Ac. minutilla* missing two shots at the latter. S. killed a rail (*P. Can.*) & a quail (*A. mex.*) Shot behaved very well & made several points. Saw two Black ducks, and several *Phy. sol.* of which latter I took a fine specimen. The marsh is in fine condition & the "signs" of snipe very numerous. Hotel cracked this evening.

Sept. 9 Clear & warm. In A.M. baited about the house & skinned my birds. The *P. pygmaea* was in good flesh but literally alive with parasites. It proved a ♀. I also shot a very fine *D. virens* & a *Thymalis*. Last night the air seemed literally filled with migrating warblers & the note of the night bird heard so often last year was also not wanting. I believe I then referred it with some doubt to *Hy. ludovicianus*. Last evening I criticised it very carefully & came to the decision that it is not made by that bird but by some species unknown or at least unrecognized by me. It resembles somewhat the note of *Turdus Swain.* but I think is not that either. Whatever may be its author the species must be a large (numerous) one as I hear them nearly every clear night. Warblers are getting very scarce in the woods with the exception of *D. striata* & *coronata*. In P.M. wrote a few letters & skinned a bird or two. S. & B. went down on the marsh and B. killed a snipe the only one that they saw.

*Turdus Pallasi*  
or *fuscus*?

Sept. 10 Fair day but very sultry and smoky with S. wind. Took the boat in the morning and got off at B. point. Paddled ashore at Sargent's landing and beat a small tract of corn for cock. We soon started some birds in very hard shooting, and I bagged 4 in 9 shots. S. did not fire at all. We started at the utmost not over 5 birds. Only one or two of them



whistled, they for the most part rising with a heavy flutter - going off in silence. They were nearly through the mouth. Afterwards beat over a good extent of promising looking ground without starting a feather. Paddled home, I shooting a ring neck by the way, and reached the house by noon. In the P.M. beat over ~~down~~ along the Tyler road and started a brood of y. grouse ~~missing~~ two flying shots & killing a bird on the ground. At the mouth of the river this morning saw two <sup>Calico</sup> Sparrows chasing one another across the cove, flying easily and not unlike swallows. Saw also several very large flocks of *Gravis. purpureus*.

Sept. 11 Clear and a lovely day. After breakfast tramped over to the Elmwood clearing with S. and R. Wilson. On the Stow road started a very large *Bubo Vir.* and fired three shots at him, killing him. I thought, with the last but as he scaled down into some thick brush I could not find him. Beyond the farm I came across a brood of y. grouse in the path, shot three in two shots killing, and afterward two more flying in three shots. Took a very fine *Vireo Phil.* It was among a large flock of warblers, & in a high beech tree. I shot a *Sitta Carolinensis*. Saw *D. Blaculosa*, *Parula Ans.* &

*D. caeruleus*, *Scimus auricap.* & *Turdus Swain.* Reached the Lake house by noon shooting a pigeon behind the stable which Mr. Godwin drove across the path for me. In P.M. skinned two small birds and took a drive with S. up on East B. hill, taking my gun but seeing nothing to shoot on the way. Stirlings and party arrived in the evening. C. Barston killed a very fine cock spruce grouse on the Taylor Road this P.M.

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Sept. 12 Clear cool & a fine day. Spent the morning in submitting the spruce grouse for B. In P.M. S. & I went over on the Taylor road. Struck a large flock of warblers over the brook and shot *D. maculosa* ♂ y.y. *D. virens* y.y. ♂. & *Parus Hudson* in full plumage. Saw *H. nificap.* The wood chamber was completely deserted. Had a very pleasant walk home in the cool of the evening.

---

Sept. 13 Clear and warm. Spent the forenoon about the house. Late in P.M. took a walk through the Stone path taking our rifles. I shot a *Parus villosus* with mine and S. killed a sparrow. After sunset I heard several birds singing faintly but could distinguish only *S. trichas*. That singular



note heard throughout the Mass woods in autumn is not wanting here & this being its unknown <sup>[Hyla pickeringii]</sup> author, was especially noisy on all sides: I think it must be some insect. We also heard off some distance in the gloomy depths of the forest a single loud cry that was new to us both: concluded that it was made by a mammal of some kind. I heard also much to my surprise a Hyla piping indistinctly near the lake shore. I noted a few shortly after my arrival in July but have noticed none since. The ferns have nearly all turned brown but otherwise the woods are still nearly as green and luxuriant as ever, and are filled with wild flowers among which the golden rod & some fine species of asters are most prominent.

Sept. 14 Clear and nearly the most sultry day of the season. Started down river at about 10 A.M. and paddled to the mouth. When I shot a Gambusia and one of two, & I fired both barrels at long range after a Pod. podiceps: we had been chasing it for some time when to our great surprise it rose directly & easily out of the water clearing its surface in a few yards although there was not so much as a breath of wind. After flying about 600 yds it lit but we were unable to find it

again. I also saw two Anthus  
bendireianus, and watched a ♂  
Galeo Sparverius flying over the  
marsh in the manner described a few  
days since, and once I was positive  
I saw him dart up & catch an  
insect. After taking a swim & eating  
lunch we went ashore in the Brown  
clanning & beat for cock. Flushed one  
among low spruces near a springy  
run and killed him at the fourth  
shot. Next shot stood handsomely on  
a brood of 6 geese which were  
among some weeds in an open  
field. I fired both barrels  
at the first & he fell dead after  
flying some distance. Also shot  
at another & thought I killed him  
but shot was so concerned with heat  
that he could do nothing but lie down  
& pant. Returned to the house late  
in P.M. Henry Purdie arrived  
the night & with me up at nearly  
midnight.

Sept. 15 Cloudy nearly all day with occasional  
glimpses of sunshine. Purdie, S.  
Barstow & self took the boat this  
morning for a trip up the Megalloway  
and arrived at the landing at  
1 P.M. Messrs. Winslow & Kimball  
& Mr. Brown were with us. Put up  
at Browns. After dinner S. & I  
walked over to Sturdevant's place.



we found a canoe shaped little boat  
 and embarking paddled up to  
 the inlet of the pond. Fished here  
 awhile without success though later  
 it is a fine ground. On the  
 marshy shore at this point we  
 saw the tracks of a herd of caribou  
 none of them however very large.  
 Paddled up the stream some  
 200 yds, to where the quick water  
 commenced starting two wood  
 duck: they have a curious  
 habit of twitching their heads  
 violently while flying & also  
 occasionally nearly stopping in  
 the air at the same time flicking  
 themselves. This I have often noticed  
 before. Saw also a flock of about  
 45 black ducks but singularly  
 enough there was not a loon on  
 the pond. Sturgeon is a most  
 beautiful little lake, crescentic in  
 shape & about 2 miles in length.  
 The water is very warm deep &  
 clear but not colder than in  
 Umbagog. Reached the house by lake.

Sept. 16 Cloudy & very warm & sultry. We  
 (all four) took a team and started  
 for Ayischoos falls. Tying the  
 horse at a doublet house we  
 walked  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the head of  
 the falls and fished down, getting  
 in all about 20 small trout

of which I took only 4. The falls  
are rather though not remarkably  
fine the highest pitch being  
perhaps 20 feet; their beauty is,  
as usual in the streams much  
marred by the dinginess of the  
water & the shiny brown moss  
which covers the rocks. After  
getting back to the house at  
the edge of the clearing for grouse  
but found none. Reached Brown's  
by dark seeing a large flock  
of *Sialia picilis* and two grouse  
by the way. The woods here  
are much more open & free  
of underbrush than at Upton.

---

Sept. 17 Still cloudy & warm with occasional  
light showers. Started immediately  
after breakfast with S. & P. &  
walked up to the dam on "Dead"  
Diamond where Mr. Winslow  
took 61 small trout last evening.  
Fished only about 40 minutes  
but took only 6 small fish  
of which I caught 4. Was  
much surprised to hear at this  
place the note of *Gambetta*  
*melanochroa*: he was apparently  
flying & high up. Came back  
on the double quick reaching  
the house in just 30 minutes.  
After dinner took the boat for  
Upton & had a most dismal



sail through the mist. Saw  
 a few ducks on the Megalloway  
 & a curious looking hawk was  
 shot from the boat near the  
 outlet; as ~~it~~ dropped apparently  
 dead I offered 50¢ to any one  
 who would get it for me & catch  
 the boat on its return from  
 the Outlet. Fred Flint volunteered  
 to try it & we left him. At the  
 Outlet Barston left us for the dam.  
 Coming down lake we took  
 Flint aboard: he had not  
 found the hawk but saw it  
 or another one fly off at his  
 approach. Off B. point we ran  
 up quite close to a flock of 15  
*Pelecanus fuscescens*. Also saw a  
*Columbus septentrionalis* and two  
*Col. arenaia* all of which were  
 probably driven inland by the  
 heavy N. E. gale which is now  
 prevailing. Reached the Lake house  
 by dark & felt as if I had got  
 home once more. Small birds  
 of all kinds were very scarce on  
 the Megalloway & we saw absolutely  
 nothing worth shooting at. Ducks  
 do not seem to be getting any  
 more numerous on the lake as  
 the season advances.

Sept. 18 Cloudy and wind hard all day.  
 Wind N.E. & very cold. Spent evening

the whole day in packing our birds &c. In the P.M. Theodore took 8 half pound trout in the river & 8 caught &c.

Sept. 19 Cloudy with thick fog all day, left the lake at 5.35 this morning on the stage, Clark driving as usual. P. & S. both accompanied me. At Brook's tavern where we stopped a few moments I heard a *Hylotermus fimbriatus* and in Newry we passed a partridge sitting in a poplar sapling so near the stage that I was almost tempted to grasp at her with my hand. As we neared Bethel one of the horses which had for some time shown signs of weariness, gave out completely and after staggering on for a few rods drawing his comradions from one side of the road to the other, he stopped leaning heavily against the side of a bridge with drooping head & tail & a general expression of the most total despair. Leaving him on the spot we drove on with the remaining three horses. The down train was as usual over an hour late and we barely made the necessary connection at Portland. Arrived in Boston at 7.30 & found Charles on hand, and by 8.30 we reached home bag & baggage.



7865-66-67-68-69-1870-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-1880-81-82-83-84-85-86

[illegible]

*Surdus migratorius*  
 " *mustelinus*  
 " *pallasi*  
 " *fusciceps*  
 " *swainsonii*  
*Scimus aurocapillus*  
 " *noveboracensis*  
*Myiophobus rufus*  
*Mimus carolinensis*  
*Sialia sialis*  
*Regulus calendula*  
 " *saturus*  
*Certhia familiaris*  
*Sitta carolinensis*  
 " *canadensis*  
*Troglodytes aedon*  
 " *hyemalis*  
*Cistothorus stellaris*  
 " *pratensis*  
*Arctus ludovicianus*  
*Mniotilta varia*  
*Parula americana*  
*Geothlypis trichas*  
 " *philadelphia*  
*Oporornis agilis*  
*Icteria striata*  
*Helmin'ga ruficapilla*  
 " *purpurina*  
 " *chrysopetra*  
*Dendroica virens*  
 " *caerulescens*  
 " *coronata*  
 " *castanea*  
 " *blackburniana*  
 " *grisea*



[illegible]



*Pooecetes gramineus*  
*Noturus flavescens*  
*" humilis*  
*Zonotrichia leucophrys*  
*" albicollis*  
*Ammodramus canadensis*  
*Junco hyemalis*  
*Spizella monticola*  
*" socialis*  
*" pusilla*  
*Melospiza melodia*  
*" palustris*  
*lincolni*  
*Passerella iliaca*  
*Cuspeza americana*  
*Garrulus ludoviciana*  
*Cyanospiza cyanea*  
*Tyrus erythrophthalmus*  
*Oreophila alpestris*  
*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*  
*Motacilla alpestris*  
*Agelaius phoeniceus*  
*Spizella magna*  
*Icterus carolinensis*  
*" spurius*  
*Sceloporus ferrugineus*  
*Dendroica cerulea*  
*Cyanus cristatus*  
*Cornus americana*  
*Tyrannus carolinensis*  
*Myiarchus cinerascens*  
*Sayornis fusca*  
*Corticeus borealis*  
*" virens*  
*Empidonax traillii*

1865-66	67-68	69-70	71-72	73-74	75-76	77-78	79-1880	81-82	83-84	85-86
Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 17	Apr. 6	Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 13	Apr. 6			
			3 Emeralds	May 22	May 13					
			May 14	May 15	May 22					
			Apr. 26	May 2	March 27	May 1				
Mar. 17	Apr. 7	Mar. 29	Apr. 2	Apr. 14	Apr. 11					
Oct. 23	Oct. 25									
Apr. 17	Apr. 17	Apr. 19	Apr. 8	Apr. 15	Apr. 10	Apr. 15	Apr. 10			
			Apr. 17	Apr. 10	Apr. 10	Apr. 11				
Mar. 12	Feb. 22	Apr. 7	Mar. 5	Mar. 27	Mar. 20	Mar. 16				
Apr. 17	Apr. 9	Apr. 12	Apr. 7	Apr. 12	Apr. 5	Apr. 15	Apr. 10			
Mar. 22	Mar. 26	Apr. 9	Mar. 3	Apr. 2	Mar. 22	Mar. 21	Mar. 20			
				May 6	May 15	May 10				
				May 14	May 20	May 15				
				Apr. 26	May 13	May 6				
				Apr. 3						
Mar. 19	Mar. 29	Apr. 7	Apr. 4	Mar. 30	Apr. 1	Mar. 26	Mar. 29			
Mar. 30	Mar. 12	Mar. 14	Mar. 23	Mar. 6	Mar. 25	Mar. 22	Mar. 30	Mar. 30		
Mar. 14	Mar. 25	Mar. 6								
				May 8	May 11					
Mar. 29	Mar. 14	Mar. 26	Mar. 23	Mar. 13	Mar. 22	Mar. 25	Mar. 30	Mar. 30		
Mar. 30	Mar. 18	Mar. 14	Mar. 22	Mar. 6	Mar. 25	Mar. 20	Mar. 21	Mar. 28		
Mar. 14		Mar. 23	Mar. 3	Apr. 3		Mar. 20				
				May 1	May 13					
				May 9	May 13					
Mar. 28	Apr. 3	Apr. 9	Mar. 19	Apr. 5	Apr. 6	Mar. 23	Apr. 2			
					May 25					
				May 19	May 24					
				May 30	May 13					







1865- 66- 67- 68- 69 1870- 71- 72 -73- 74- 75- 76- 77- 78- 79- 1880- 81- 82- 83- 84- 85- 1886

*Octopus migratorius*  
*Lunaidura carolinensis*  
*Charadrius virginicus*  
*Aegialitis vocifera*  
 " *semipalmatus*  
 " *melodus*  
*Squatarola hectorica*  
*Philohela minor*  
*Gallinago wilsonii*  
*Macrorhamphus griseus*  
*Valisirus armatus*  
*Singa canutus*  
 " *maritima*  
 " *subarguata*  
 " *americana*  
 " *maculata*  
 " *minutilla*  
 " *bonapartei*  
*Oreocetes pusilla*  
*Micropalma himantopus*  
*Symphysa semipalmata*  
*Gammatella ondanoleuca*  
 " *flavipes*  
*Rhyacophilus solitarius*  
*Tringoides macularius*  
*Actinurus carolinensis*  
*Tringoides infersens*  
*Limosa fedra*  
 " *fruticosa*  
*Numenius longirostris*  
 " *indianus*  
 " *foralio*  
*Phalaropus wilsonii*  
 " *fulicarius*  
 " *hyperboreus*

40 Camb.  
 Sept. 9  
 1 Camb.  
 Sep. 18

1 juv. Camb.  
 July 6

50. Brond  
 Apr. 3

1 juv. H.  
 May 11

Mar. 28 Apr. 2 Mar. 26 Mar. 25

1 Camb.  
 Mar. 20 Apr. 13 Apr. 4 Apr. 4 Apr. 6 Apr. 9 Mar. 20 Apr. 6

2 at Milton 2 Belmont  
 Mch. 22 Apr. 12  
 2 G. Lynam 1 Belmont B. A. 3 Camb.  
 Apr. 2 Mar. 26 Apr. 2

Sw. Concord,  
 May 7

21  
 May 2

g. a. Concord  
 May 8

1865-66-67-68-69-1870-71-72

9  
Apr. 9

1  
Apr. 22

21  
Apr. 26

18 over  
Apr. 9

18 Belmont,  
Aug. 11

May 1

Apr. 15

Apr. 22

Apr. 4 Apr. 10 Apr. 8 Apr. 12

2  
Apr. 18

Apr. 27

2 Lamb.  
Sept. 2

15 2 flks. 10th 10th  
Apr. 17 Apr. 2 Apr. 1 Apr. 21

Mar. 27 <sup>g.a.</sup> Apr. 8 <sup>g. a. Camb. 2/</sup> Apr. 7 <sup>2 Concord</sup> Mar. 16 Apr. 3

219 229  
Apr. 3 Apr. 10 Sept. 12 Sept. 6

806 Camb)  
Apr. 27

7 2  
Apr. 13 Apr. 5

g. a. g. a. Card  
Apr. 29 Apr. 3

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>1</sub> Nov. 2

8 Fresh pr.  
Oct 24

73 - 74 75 - 76 77 - 78 - 79 1880 81 - 82 83 84 85 - 1886

1 B. m. esthet  
Apr. 9

Plymouth Mass  
Apr. 20

2 Camb,  
May 27

1 Brooklyn  
Apr. 21

1 Edward  
May 8

2  
Apr. 15 Apr. 10 Apr. 11

G. & L.  
May 7  
1 Camp  
Apr. 22  
Newburyport  
May 4

1 Fr. Jr.  
Apr. 24

Rockport  
Apr. 10

Cambr.  
Apr. 23



1865-66-67-68-69-70-1871-72

73-74 75-76 77-78 79 1880-81-82 83-84-85-1886

*Atya americana*  
*Brachyda islandica*  
 " *americana*  
 " *albida*  
*Histiogobius longatus*  
*Harada glacialis*  
*Campylodiscus labridon*  
*Melanota velutina*  
*Schizotha fuscescens*  
*Oidemia americana*  
*Somateria mollissima*  
 " *spontabilis*  
*Osmotreron rubida*  
*Mergus serrator*  
 " *americanus*  
*Lophodius cucullatus*  
*Sula bassana*  
 " *fibra*  
*Glaucus dilophus*  
 " *carbo*  
*Buphagus sterna*  
*Pterodroma graminea*  
 " *parvipes*  
 " *buffonii*  
*Larus melanurus*  
 " *glaucopterus*  
 " *leucophaea*  
 " *argentatus*  
 " *delawarensis*  
*Chroicocephala atricilla*  
 " *philadelphia*  
*Puffinus tridactylus*  
*Sterna caspia*  
 " *aculeata*  
 " *h.*

7 fresh, 2 fresh,  
 Oct. 27 Nov. 8  
 3 fresh, 5 fresh, 1 fresh,  
 Oct. 20 Oct. 21 Nov. 3

3 fresh, 1 fresh, 1 fresh, 2 fresh,  
 Oct. 1 Oct. 11 Oct. 23 Oct. 13

2 ad. fresh,  
 Oct. 3

35 fresh, 5 fresh, 1 fresh, 1 fresh,  
 Sept. 30 Oct. 9 Oct. 4 Oct. 21

32 fresh,  
 Dec. 8  
 1 fresh, 1 fresh, 1 fresh,  
 Aug. 11 Nov. 11 Nov. 11 Oct. 17

1865-66-67-68-69-1870-71-72

73-74-75-76-77-78-79-1880-81-82-83-84-85-1886

*Sterna hirundo*  
" *macroura*  
" *paradisica*  
" *antillarum*  
*Hydrochelidon fissipes*  
*Halophalaria fuliginosa*  
*Puffinus major*  
" *anglorum*  
" *fuliginosus*  
*Procellaria pelagica*  
*Oceanites oceanica*  
*Cymochorea leucorhoa*  
*Columbus torquatus*  
" *arcticus*  
" *septentrionalis*  
*Podiceps ~~podiceps~~ persicus*  
" *cristatus*  
" *cornutus*  
*Podilymbus podiceps*  
*Actinia torda*  
*Gratiola arctica*  
*Uria grylle*  
*Domia troille*  
" *singia*  
" *parbag*  
*Mergus alle*

1 Big bird  
Sept. 1

2 Big birds  
Sept. 14

1 Big bird 3 1/2 p.m.  
Aug 23 Sept. 15



1865-66 67-68-69-1870-71-72

-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-1880-81 82-83-84-85-86























